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# THE TIMES

No. 64,617

TUESDAY APRIL 13 1993

45p

## South Africa 'tense and chaotic' as thousands confront police



Street struggle: police taking cover after black gunmen opened fire on them as, right, mourners for Chris Hani, brandishing sharpened staves, march to a memorial service at Katlehong yesterday



## Angry blacks seek armed uprising

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

TENS of thousands of black protesters took to South African streets yesterday as black anger at the assassination of Chris Hani boiled over into calls for arms to be taken up against whites.

Shots were fired by black radicals, police were stoned and vehicles set ablaze. "The situation is tense and chaotic," Brigadier Frans Malherbe, a police spokesman, said.

Despite efforts by the leaders of both blacks and whites to contain the violence, fears rose last night that anarchy could destroy hopes of arriving at peacefully negotiated political reform.

Leaders of the African National Congress and its allies have made plans to channel their followers' anger into several days of mass demonstrations. But younger leaders of the ANC rejected the peace calls at one mass rally, in the Pretoria township of Mamelodi. They demanded to know how they could be expected to act responsibly in the face of the assassination on Saturday of Hani, general secretary of the South African Communist party, which was blamed by several speakers on the government.

"It is time we told the leadership that enough is enough," one speaker said. "Now is the time to hit back." Speakers from the ANC Youth League and student wing called for a boycott of white businesses.

The rally began in a high state of anger after a police car had been stoned, injuring one of the occupants. Police reacted by firing tear gas at the gathering crowds, and broke them into smaller processions.

**Although ANC leaders want to turn anger at the murder of Chris Hani into days of mass demonstrations, younger elements are rejecting calls for peace**

The rally ended peacefully with the crowd marching back to the township, shouting and singing freedom songs.

A thousand blacks, many carrying spears and axes, marched on Hani's home in a suburb of Boksburg, near

Katlehong. Thokoza and Tsikane, as protesters began to set vehicles alight. Security force reinforcements were rushed to the townships as angry youths tried to burn police trucks, delivery vans and private cars.

In Katlehong a number of black and white reporters and television crews were fired on as they tried to film a blazing truck. Jude Ngwenya, a photographer for Reuters news agency, said he was "nearly killed", but that no one was injured.

Two white men were burned to death outside a shebeen at Lwandle township 25 miles from Cape Town on Sunday. A third white man, who was also set alight and had his tongue cut during the same attack, died of his injuries yesterday. In a broadcast, Archbishop Desmond Tutu condemned retaliatory murders and appealed to blacks for restraint, declaring: "Please, please dear people, we don't help our cause by actions of that kind."

The ANC last night demanded an international investigation into Hani's killing, saying an open and fair enquiry could not be conducted by "the same corrupt forces Comrade Hani fought so long". It said it was disturbed that the

murder weapon had allegedly been stolen from the South African air force.

Police fired rubber bullets to disperse a crowd which had burnt down a house belonging to a police sergeant in Katlehong. The crowd of about 200 people was returning from Hani's Boksburg house when it began stoning the Katlehong police station, breaking the windows of buildings and vehicles. The crowd then went on to set fire to the house. The terrified inhabitants of Boksburg were visited by more than five thousand marchers from various townships anxious to pay their respects to the dead leader.

In Cape Province, where the worst of violence broke out at the weekend, the townships were mainly quiet. A black man was killed during an exchange of shots between police and demonstrators in the Chicken Farm squatter camp in Soweto on Sunday.

Those urging calm yesterday pointed out that more people died in the violent storms which struck the Cape Province and Natal at the weekend than in the political violence. The storms broke down sea walls and caused the closure of Cape Town's international airport, as well as of the railway that runs along the Cape peninsula to Simons-town. Three homeless people died of exposure, and another man was killed when a tree fell on him.

Right condemnation, page 11  
R. W. Johnson, page 14

## NUT shies away from joining national strikes

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S biggest teaching union yesterday refused to join a concerted campaign against the government by public sector workers, as its leadership struggled to contain plans for industrial action in schools.

Left-wingers won a series of votes for action at the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers in Brighton. But calls for national strikes next term against redundancies and performance-related pay were rejected.

Delegates will decide today whether to include strikes in their campaign over pay, and whether to ballot on a boycott of teacher appraisal schemes. The NUT's executive is expected to reject its pay strategy rather than accept the boycott. There were ironic cheers when

capitalise on the mood of militancy.

Carole Regan, a leading left-winger, urged the conference to follow the example of the rail and mining unions in calling strikes. However, two attempts to organise concerted inter-union action were rejected by large majorities. Steve Sinnott, a member of the NUT's executive, said other unions were rejecting the strategy of joint action and members would not support an early strike over pay.

The left's main success was to win a close vote on a policy of non-cooperation with appraisal, which the union fears will be used to determine performance-related pay. But the decision is likely to be overturned this afternoon if the executive sacrifices its own plans, which include strikes over pay.

Doug McAvo, the general secretary, said last night that the union's officers were reluctant to risk defeat in a ballot over appraisal for fear of encouraging school governors to misuse the system. The NUT accepts appraisal where it is given guarantees that the results will be used for professional development only.

Mr McAvo said that the resounding defeat for collaboration with other public sector unions demonstrated that the support for a boycott of testing was not politically motivated. "No one can say now that we are engaged in an all-out campaign against the Tories," he said.

The conference did agree to take action on the growing number of classes containing more than 30 pupils. Tony Marsh, from Hull, said he

knew of classes of up to 37 pupils being taught in rooms built for 22 children.

Anita Wright, a head teacher from Wandsworth, south London, told delegates that the strict implementation of the policy would "close every primary school that exists".

The union's guidelines limit practical lessons to 20 pupils and call for further reductions in classes containing pupils with special educational needs.

Responding to the decision by teachers to ballot on whether they should refuse to teach classes of more than 30 pupils, John Patten, the education secretary, said last night: "This is very sad news. Parents and many teachers can only be dismayed by all this further talk of boycotting and industrial action."

## 19 die in tragic holiday weekend on roads

By Bill Frost

A SERIES of fatal accidents over the Easter holiday claimed at least 19 lives. Last year there were only four fatalities. The dead included sisters aged five and seven and three pensioners.

Late yesterday afternoon four people died in a collision near Crowmarsh, Oxfordshire. Two others were seriously injured. The ambulance service said two vehicles had "smashed head on" at a roundabout on the Oxford-Wallingford road.

Among the others who died were a father and daughter and husband and wife who were killed when two vehicles collided head-on.

Rachel Reed, 5, and her sister Maria, 7, died when they were struck by a car which mounted the pavement in South Bank, Middlesbrough, Cleveland. A child was hurt.

Three pensioners were killed when their Vauxhall Nova spun into the path of another car after a collision on the A470. Mrs Eunice Jones, 71, had been driving her sister Mrs Catherine Pugh, 81, and their brother-in-law John Roberts, 81, to their homes in Aberangell on the Powys-Gwynedd border after an Easter chapel service.

A father and daughter and a husband and wife died in a head-on crash in Woodingdean, Brighton. Police said an open-topped Westfield "kit" car had gone out of control. At Liphook, Hampshire, Mrs Emma Robinson, 22, died when her car left the road and a driver who was killed when his car hit a tree on the A41 near Redditch, who was named as Dennis Bryce, 40, from Birmingham.

The AA said the roads were "generally quiet". But traffic had been heavy on routes to the south coast.

Ignorance blamed, page 3

## Nato takes action with no-fly patrols

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

NATO fighter planes yesterday started their enforcement of the United Nations-declared no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the alliance's first combat mission.

Four US F15 fighters from the US air base at Aviano in northeast Italy flew east yesterday afternoon to begin enforcing UN Resolution 816, which forbids unauthorised flights over Bosnia. Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, accused the international community of "a demonstration of brutal force".

The operation, which relies on 15 Italian air bases for logistical support, is being commanded from Vicenza by General Antonio Rossetti of the Italian air force. US Admiral Mike Boorda, commander-in-chief of allied forces, southern Europe, said about 100 planes from America, France and the Netherlands

would be involved. Jets from the aircraft carrier USS Roosevelt, in the Adriatic, will take part. Admiral Boorda would not go into detail on the rules of engagement, but it is understood the Nato planes will use minimum force to persuade unauthorised aircraft to land or to leave Bosnian skies.

Admiral Boorda said one of the pilots' problems would be identifying aircraft flying slowly and at low altitude. The pilots will also have to operate over rugged mountain terrain. Since the no-fly zone was declared last October there have been at least 500 violations. The enforcement has been delayed because countries such as France and Britain feared that it could lead to reprisals against their peacekeeping troops.

Sanctions delayed, page 10  
Woman's work, page 12

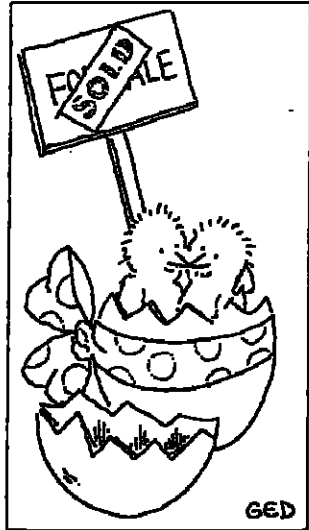
## Easter cheer for estate agents as buyers return to the market

By Ray Clancy

SPRING fever in the housing market over the holiday weekend is signalling the best sign so far that the depressed property market is on the road to recovery, estate agents said yesterday. Building societies and other lenders are expecting a rush of applications.

Easter is traditionally the start of the busiest period for estate agents, but they have been surprised by the number of people showing interest. Michael Jones, president of the National Association of Estate Agents, said: "People have not been put off by the weather over the weekend."

Estate agents do not want a sudden surge in prices. "We need the reverse of what happened in the 1980s. Recovery is likely to come from the regions with London and the South-east the last to feel the effects," said Mr Jones. Mortgage applications to



the Halifax are running at 1,400 a day, an increase of 40 per cent on the same time last year. Jim Murgatroyd, of the Halifax, said that everything is in place for a recovery by the end of the year. "The timing is vital. Low mortgages, dis-

counts, and the stamp duty benefits are paving the way. All we need now is more confidence from the buyer."

The most encouraging signs are in Wales, Scotland and the north of England. Estate agents in Glasgow reported brisk business and in the Sheffield area a large number of first-time buyers were looking for property.

The euphoria of a recovering housing market is not being repeated in the ravaged commercial property sector, according to a gloomy report from the chartered surveyor St Quintin (Martin Waller writes).

High street banks have already had to write off hundreds of millions of pounds after ill-advised loans to property companies in the boom years and there are many huge office developments still lying vacant.

Commercial gloom, page 36

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## Conservatives prepare for rearguard action in southern heartlands

BY PETER RIDDELL AND JONATHAN PRYNN

AS INTENSIVE campaigning for local elections starts this week, the Tories are mounting a counter-attack over the council tax and value for money in local government. The elections on May 6 are the first significant electoral test of this parliament.

With the Liberal Democrats launching their campaign tomorrow, the Tory and Labour parties have already started to fight on the same ground — levels of local taxation and efficiency.

The Tories are generally expected to lose seats in their traditional heartlands in the

South, where they have only small majorities in several counties and could easily lose overall control. The results will affect the morale of Tory MPs and attitudes towards John Major at a critical time.

More than 25 million adults are eligible to vote in elections covering roughly three-fifths of Britain. A total of 3,501 seats are up in 39 English and eight Welsh counties. There are also elections in Northern Ireland but no elections this year in Greater London, the metropolitan district areas (the West Midlands, South and West York-



shire, Tyne and Wear, Merseyside and Greater Manchester) or in Scotland.

If the parliamentary by-election in Newbury, Berkshire, is also held on May 6, government whips will have to move the writ within two days. Locally, the Tories have the most to lose. They currently control 18 councils (including

one where they have half the seats) across southern England from Devon to East Anglia and up to Lincolnshire. Further north, Labour are dominant, controlling eight counties: Cleveland, Derbyshire, Durham, Humberside, Lancashire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire.

The Liberal Democrats have only the Isle of Wight under outright control, leaving 12 counties with hung councils, mostly in areas where all the MPs are Tories. In Wales, Labour controls four counties, with two dominated by independents and two under no overall control. The

county elections are generally bad for the Tories, as they occur in the mid-points of their national poll ratings are low. In 1985, the Tories lost control of counties such as Devon, Hampshire, Hertfordshire and Somerset, although in a slightly better year in 1989 they regained overall control of those counties. This was in part because of the poor showing of the Liberal Democrats, who were still recovering from their bruising merger of the year before.

The likeliest outcome this year is that the Tories will slip back to the position of 1981 or 1985, when there was no

overall control in half the English counties. That will complicate the government's task in implementing its radical agenda and will provide a test for co-operation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

All the parties are, predictably, playing down expectations. The Liberal Democrats talk of "steady progress" rather than specific targets. As well as the Isle of Wight, the party holds the balance of power in seven other counties and has 470 councillors. They have high hopes for Somerset, where the Tories have a majority of seven, and Gloucestershire, where no party has

overall control. Hopes of gaining control are also running high in Cornwall.

The Tories, who in 1989 gained a net 98 seats and overall control in eight counties, have stepped up their attacks against the Liberal Democrats' record in hung councils, aimed at frightening waverers away from "Labour's stalking horse". The Tories hope to regain overall control of Berkshire, where they are only three short of a majority, and gain the Isle of Wight.

Labour hopes are highest in counties with large urban areas, such as Northamptonshire, Avon — where Labour is the largest single party — and

Leicestershire, where there is no overall control. More surprisingly, Labour has high expectations in Wiltshire, which includes Swindon.

A complication is that the present structure is being reviewed by the Local Government Commission. Big changes in Wales and the Isle of Wight have already been announced and there will be further elections in a year's time to take over the responsibilities of the present counties and the councillors being elected on May 6. There is speculation that Avon, Cleveland and Humberside may be abolished and not run their full four-year terms.

## Class testing enslaves teachers, says union chief

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

THE national curriculum and testing system form a monument to bureaucracy and prejudice that is enslaving teachers, a leader of the profession said yesterday.

John Rowland, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers (NAS/UWT), which is heading the revolt against classroom tests for children aged seven and 14, said the union was engaged in a struggle for its soul.

His speech to the union's annual conference in Bourne-mouth left little apparent room for compromise in the mounting dispute that threatens to disrupt thousands of schools this summer.

The impact of the NAS-UWT action is expected to grow rapidly next term as the testing season in secondary schools, where three-quarters of the union's membership is based, gets into full swing.

Tests for seven-year-olds have so far borne the brunt of the boycott as most primary schools started implementing them before Easter.

The effect of the first month of the boycott has proved much greater than anticipated. Despite a patchy response, there is already a big question mark hanging over the first national primary school league tables, which ministers hope to publish at the end of the year.

Hundreds of schools have scrapped the tests altogether, even where only one class was disrupted by NAS/UWT action, after advice from the National Association of Head Teachers. The association said schools should abandon testing rather than allow disruption to leave incomplete results

that would distort their performance in league tables.

Mr Rowland, a teacher at Hebburn comprehensive, Tyneside, said education's most pressing need was the restoration of teachers' morale and altruistic commitment to pupils before they disappeared forever in the face of studied indifference from ministers.

Teachers were not opposed to the tests or the national curriculum, he said. But they could not be expected to commit themselves to a system of assessment that largely ignored their first-hand knowledge of pupils.

"How can they [teachers] not resent a process that involves so much hard work that it takes over in the classroom, not enhancing teaching but enslaving it?" he said.

Nigel de Gruchy, the union's general secretary, said the conference would not seek to widen the dispute to include teachers' pay. "It will offer a clarification call to continue with the boycott, stressing the workload issue, which is at the heart of the dispute," he said.

Labour's dilemma over the threatened teachers' dispute was exposed yesterday when the party called on John Patten to withdraw tests for 14-year-olds this summer but refused to back a boycott.

Ann Taylor, shadow education secretary, said that it was up to the teaching profession to decide what action to take but she would not encourage a boycott. She also warned teachers that they should not muddy opposition to tests by using it to build a campaign against educational policy.

NUT infighting, page 1



Class action: hands raised for a vote at the National Union of Teachers' conference at Brighton yesterday

## Leftwingers vie for influence in NUT over boycott stand

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A BEWILDERING array of fringe groups vie for attention on the left of the National Union of Teachers.

Delegates to the union's annual conference in Brighton are lobbied daily by organisations many have never heard of.

Yesterday, for example, the Alliance for Workers' Liberty was berating Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokeswoman, for failing to support a boycott of national curriculum tests. But even conference aficionados could not place the group in the political spectrum.

Two coalitions dominate the left of the union: the Socialist Teachers Alliance (STA) and the Campaign for a Democratic and Fighting Union (CDFU). Both are well represented on the executive of the NUT, but cannot muster a majority together.

The CDFU, which acts as an umbrella for a variety of far-left groups, is making the running this year. Richard Rieser, the group's main spokesman, is the most regular speaker on the conference floor, rounding on the executive of the union at every opportunity.

Mr Rieser, who is a special needs adviser in Hackney, East London, is on record as having left the Socialist Workers' Party because it was not sufficiently militant. He was one of the few voices at the conference to be heard demanding a harder line against the tests, and yesterday he pulled off a surprise victory for the left over a boycott of

teacher appraisal.

Two of the main officers of the union are members of the CDFU, although neither is active on the conference floor. Mary Hufford is the deputy general secretary of the NUT, and Ian Murch, the treasurer, was suspended from membership last year until winning reinstatement via the courts.

The STA, which includes Socialist Workers and members of Militant, has greater strength on the executive but is keeping a relatively low profile at the conference. The group is considered to be more disciplined than its rival and is concentrating its attention on the testing dispute.

A healthy rivalry exists between the two groups, members scoring points over each other's militant credentials.

## Three held at Dundee protest over Timex jobs

THOUSANDS of people yesterday took part in two noisy demonstrations in support of the 340 sacked Timex workers.

Three people were arrested as about 1,000 people gathered at the company's plant in Dundee to demonstrate at the start of the dispute's eleventh week.

Later, 6,000 protesters took part in a Scottish TUC-sponsored march and rally in support of the sacked workers. The marchers, led by the AEEU engineering union, passed the factory before holding a rally at nearby Campden Park.

Heavy policing at the morning picket ensured that buses carrying workers who have replaced the sacked 340 entered the factory. The buses were escorted the last 50 yards to the plant by a police cordon as protesters pushed, shouted and waved placards.

A Tayside police spokesman said the great majority of the protesters were noisy but well behaved. "Three persons were apprehended following incidents near to the factory gates, and reports will be submitted to the regional procurator-fiscal," he said.

At the later rally, trade unionists from across Britain joined supporters from local factories and their families to cheer a succession of speakers.

The Labour MP Maria Fyfe, Scottish spokesperson on women's issues, praised the efforts of the women among the sacked Timex workers and added: "The strength you have shown is an example to us all."

George Bolton, the Scottish miners' president, told the rally that the campaign for the sacked Timex workers should be taken across Scotland and to Parliament. Willie Lesslie, the sacked deputy shop stewards' convener, told the crowd that the company had to choose between a negotiated settlement of the dispute or closure of the factory. Mr Lesslie pledged the AEEU would continue the fight and said he was heartened by the day's turnout.

Police said the rally ended peacefully.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ten teenagers break out of institution

Seven teenagers were on the run last night after a break-out from a young offenders' institution became the latest in a series of embarrassments for the prison service (Richard Ford writes). Ten inmates, aged 17 and 18, broke out of their accommodation block at Guy's Marsh near Shaftesbury in Dorset, and used a ladder to scale a 15ft razor-wire fence. A van was stolen and three of the fugitives were recaptured in Salisbury, Wiltshire, 90 minutes later. Their sentences have been increased by 28 days. A governor broke his Easter holiday to return to the prison and has begun an enquiry. Guy's Marsh does not have high security because its inmates have been convicted of minor offences.

In another incident a prisoner eluded two police officers guarding him at Hull Royal Infirmary, where he was under observation for stomach pains, when he went to a bathroom for a wash. He was recaptured trying to leave the building by a rear exit and will appear before magistrates today on a burglary charge.

### 'Privatise hospitals' call

Private firms should take over building and running NHS hospitals and GP surgeries as part of a wider move to shift the burden of health care funding to the private sector, a Tory MP said. David Willetts, a former member of the Downing Street policy unit, urged the government to encourage private firms to have a much greater role.

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, said yesterday that newly qualified nurses were unable to find jobs because nurses were no longer leaving the NHS in droves. A survey carried out by BBC Radio 4's Today programme showed that many students were unable to find a permanent job after qualifying.

### Women end pit sit-in

Anne Scargill, wife of the NUM president, and three other women ended their four-day sit-in over pit closures at Parkside colliery, Merseyside, yesterday. They emerged as Arthur Scargill was addressing a 1,000-strong rally at the colliery. Mrs Scargill, who was sustained by orange juice and sandwiches underground, hailed the protest as a victory for their campaign. "We are not fighting for just one pit but for all 31 pits and 30,000 jobs," she said. Her husband praised the women's courageous action.

### River cruiser explodes

A passer-by dived into the Thames at Radcot, Oxfordshire, to save a couple blown overboard when their cabin cruiser exploded. As Peter Stevens, of Kidlington, helped Barbara and Peter Byrd, of Witney, to the bank, an off-duty ambulance man seized a rope and jumped off his own boat to drag the blazing cruiser clear. Jonathan Towell, 44, who had just been on a course to study the effects of explosions, acted after being told that there was a second gas canister on the burning boat. Easter toll, page 1; 19 die, page 3

### Fourth rape arrest

A fourth man was arrested yesterday in connection with the alleged rape of a 16-year-old girl on Sunday in a car park in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. The four men, who are in their late twenties, are being held in custody. Police said they were part of a coach party from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, who were celebrating a stag night. The girl was allegedly raped after drinking and dancing with the men. The groom-to-be, due to be married in a few days, has been questioned but ruled out of the enquiry.

### Irish National in clear



The Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse got off to a faultless start yesterday amid much mockery from those who had witnessed the Aintree debacle. For the first time in 22 years of starting the race Brendan Keating, the flagman, left, had a radio connecting him with the starter. He did not need it, or his flag. "It was a great start," he said. "A super start."

Race report, page 22

### Climber found dead

A climber was found dead yesterday at the foot of Stuc a' Chroin mountain at Lochearnhead, near Callander, Central Scotland. Samuel Clements, 53, an assistant rector, of Dunfermline, Fife, was reported to have fallen the previous night. Rescue teams had to battle through snow and mist which reduced visibility to 15 feet.

### African birds fly in

Rare birds from North Africa have been sighted in Britain after missing south European destinations by hundreds of miles. Black-winged stilts have been seen on Anglesey, alpine swifts by the Severn Bridge. Others include a Sardinian warbler, a hoopoe and a little bittern.

## Unionists rail at Hume peace talks

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

UNIONIST leaders yesterday mounted a concerted campaign to discredit the initiative by John Hume, the SDLP leader, who has opened discussions with Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Féin.

The talks came to light on Sunday after a 90-minute meeting at Mr Hume's home in Londonderry. Further meetings in the search for what Mr Hume later called "a lasting peace" can be expected in the coming weeks.

Unionists, fearful that Sinn Féin and the IRA are being accorded unjustified credibility by Mr Hume's move, said there could be no further talks involving them on Northern Ireland's future, until the initiative was abandoned.

Ian Paisley, DUP leader, said the meetings were part of a conspiracy by the British and Irish governments, the Roman Catholic hierarchy, Sinn Féin and the SDLP to outflank unionists. He said this could culminate "in them putting pressure on the unionists and saying, 'You are the people that stand as an obstacle to peace'". Members of the more moderate Ulster Union-

ist Party were less openly hostile. John Taylor, MP for Strangford, said it was important there should be meetings between the leaders of two parties representing 30 per cent of the vote in Northern Ireland, though he remained pessimistic about the chances for peace arising out of them.

Unionist bluster about the meetings is unlikely to dissuade Mr Hume from further contacts with Mr Adams. His initiative has been welcomed throughout Ireland and in Britain. There is still no indication of how the meeting was arranged, whose idea it was, or what was discussed.

Mr Hume and Mr Adams have agreed to keep details confidential. Mr Adams has, however, tried to distance himself from speculation that the meeting may be part of an attempt by the IRA to open some form of negotiation with the British government on a possible ceasefire.

"For its part, the IRA has made its position clear and I do not speak nor do I seek to speak for the IRA," he said. "All republicans seek a lasting peace."

## Paisley condemns IRA flaunting of sniper rifle

BY LOUISE HIDALGO

POLICE are to investigate the public flaunting of a powerful American-made rifle at a republican Easter day rally in the village of Cullybanna in south Armagh, as unionists condemned the security forces' failure to intervene.

The long-barrelled sniper rifle is believed to have been taken in at least three of the four killings of

policemen and soldiers in Northern Ireland in the past nine months. It was brandished by men in combat uniform while an army patrol monitored the event from a distance, as is standard security procedure. There was no attempt made to seize the weapon.

Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist Party leader, said yesterday that he was outraged by the security forces' apparent failure to recover the weapon, which he said had been shamelessly

displayed. Police confirmed that members of the security forces had been monitoring the rally.

The semi-automatic rifle, which is believed to have been smuggled from America, is one of the most powerful in the world. From a range of more than a mile it can fire a bullet normally used in machine guns mounted on tanks and other armoured vehicles. It can pierce body armour and is accurate at more than 1,000 yards. One of its

bullets can go straight through the ceramic plates fitted into the flak jackets of British troops in Ulster.

At a separate republican Easter day rally in the nearby village of Crossmaglen, a hooded IRA man said that the security forces "no longer had protection in their flak jackets or fortified bases". The Crossmaglen army base is one of several damaged recently in IRA attacks with their new "barrack-buster" mortar bombs.

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Leicestershire, where there is no overall control. More surprising, Labour has high expectations of the Tories, which includes the Tories' control of the majority. The Tories' control of the majority is a surprise, as they are not expected to win. The Tories' control of the majority is a surprise, as they are not expected to win. The Tories' control of the majority is a surprise, as they are not expected to win.

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# Tourist murdered in US had changed plans to go to Egypt

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE fiancée of a schoolteacher murdered in New Orleans said yesterday that they had planned to holiday in Egypt but, because of attacks on tourists there, decided to go to America.

Margaret Reece, who is four months pregnant, also said that Adrian Strasser's reluctance to hand over a new video camera to muggers probably cost him his life. Miss Reece flew home to Edinburgh yesterday and was met by members of her family, airport officials and a representative of Scotsman Publications, where she works in the advertising department.

She said that New Orleans was Mr Strasser's choice of destination. "He wanted to go just there. We had in fact pencilled in going to Egypt but when we discovered I was pregnant we decided against it." Militant Muslims have carried out a string of attacks on travellers in an attempt to upset Egypt's tourist industry.

Mr Strasser's family spoke yesterday of his outgoing, peace-loving nature. His father, Lt Col Ernest Strasser, said that the 36-year-old teacher at Towerbank Primary School in Portobello, Edinburgh, was the sort of man who would pick a spider off the lawn rather than run it over with a lawnmower. He said that he had warned his son about the brutality of muggers in America.

Miss Reece, who was pale and drawn, said that they had arrived in New Orleans from California on Friday and gone out for a meal. "We had no idea it could be dangerous. No one had said anything. None of the guides had indicated that it could be a dangerous

city," Mr Strasser, a jazz enthusiast, went out for a drink while Miss Reece went back to their hotel after dinner in the French quarter. She said she was tired and wanted to go to bed. Mr Strasser, whom she described as a "bon viveur", decided it was too early and went off to explore the city.

Miss Reece said: "I think what happened is that he has either come out of a bar and someone has lured him into a seedier part of town with a view to perhaps stealing the camera from him."

She said her fiancé was not carrying much money. "He talked to everyone when he went out. He liked people and was a very trusting person. I can only assume that someone has tried to get the camera from him once he went to that bad area. But because it was a present from his father and he had taken most of the video of us on holiday in San Francisco,

co, he probably was reluctant to let it go. I think it has cost him his life."

Miss Reece said that when he had not returned by 10pm she had started to worry. He was still not back by 11pm, the time by which he had said he would return.

She spent a sleepless night worrying and, at 6.30am, went out to look for him. After an hour and a half of searching she called the hotel manager, who called the police.

Mr Strasser's body was discovered about a mile from the hotel in a notorious slum district. His skull had been fractured by three severe blows. A female passerby gave him a towel to staunch the flow of blood but did not call the police.

Miss Reece said that she was trying hard not to let what had happened distress her too much in case it harmed her or the baby's health.

Mr Strasser's father said that he had told his son before he went on holiday: "You have got to understand they will come and rob you and stand in front of you and shoot you dead when they have already taken everything you have."

Mr Strasser, who had a law degree from Edinburgh University, was an experienced traveller and went abroad frequently, often teaching English to students. He had visited America before but, according to Miss Reece, had always wanted to visit New Orleans.

His death came a year after Julie Stott, 27, a British tourist, was shot dead in New Orleans by youths in a car. A man arrested in connection with the killing was later released.

governor, said yesterday that he was seeking federal aid to ensure the safety of visitors to the sunshine state, which is the most popular destination for Britons. This follows the killings of seven foreigners in Miami since last October, the most recent being that of a German woman, Barbara Meller Jensen, on April 2. She was beaten and run over in front of her two young children after getting lost on her way from the airport.

On Sunday, two Venezuelan tourists were robbed in Miami while putting petrol into their rental car. Three Danish women in another rental car were the victims of a smash-and-grab robbery yesterday.

Desperate to protect the \$30 billion generated by its 40 million visitors annually, Florida's authorities are abolishing distinctive rental car number plates, improving signposts and handing out maps at airports.

Other popular tourist destinations are just as dangerous. Los Angeles, which had 1,027 homicides in 1991, is now armed to the hilt and braced for riots should the four white police officers accused of unlawfully attacking Rodney King, a black motorist, be acquitted a second time.

Washington DC (482 homicides last year) is being terrorised by a gunman who is driving around an area of its relatively prosperous north-west quadrant at night firing his shotgun at lone pedestrians. There have been nine such attacks since February 23, with two of the victims killed and others wounded.

Of the 24,703 homicides in America in 1991, New York, the other leading tourist destination, accounted for 2,154.

Orleans, San Francisco, Washington, Chicago and Las Vegas.

ADTA says that California and New York, as second and close third, each attract 250,000 holidaymakers annually.

Walt Disney World is the largest single tourist attraction in the United States. Tourism as a whole generated \$720 billion of business in 1990 and is expected to add another 11 per cent or \$79 billion this year. The US travel and tourism industry employs 7.5 per cent of the country's workforce.

Freud by Bacon: given in payment for meals

## Bacon's meal ticket goes on sale

BY ALAN HAMILTON

Compton Street, central London, almost 30 years ago. The proprietor of the seafood restaurant had been particularly indulgent towards the artist when Bacon was financially embarrassed.

Bacon, who died last April aged 52, had a prodigious appetite for the good life which, in the early days of his career, was not always matched by an ability to pay his way. According to Daniel Farson, his biographer, Bacon "could be found in the gutter or the Ritz and was at home in both". When he came to London from Ireland, he found work as a gentleman's gentleman, but was fired when his master found him

dining at the next table at the Ritz.

Even in later years, when he was recognised as England's finest painter since Turner and his work was selling at auction in New York for nearly £4 million, Bacon still preferred to travel by bus and live in the same scruffy mews cottage that looked as if it was waiting for the furniture to arrive, according to Farson.

The Walsh family no longer owns the painting. Mr Walsh sold it to buy a horse in 1978, after seeking the artist's permission. The family still owns a painting by Lucian Freud, which they believe may have been acquired by similar means.

## Call for national campaign to educate weekend drivers



Holiday victims: Maria, left, and Rachel Reed, who were killed when a car mounted the pavement

## Young sisters are among victims as 19 die in spate of holiday crashes

BY BILL FROST

TWO young sisters who died when they were hit by a car which mounted the pavement on a council estate in South Bank, Middlesbrough, were named yesterday as Rachel Reed, 5, and Maria, 7.

A friend, Leanne Johns, 9, who was also hit, was yesterday said to be in a critical condition at Middlesbrough General Hospital.

A neighbour of the girls

said that angry passers-by had tried to "get at" the driver as he sat "dazed" behind the wheel after the accident on Sunday night. He was led away by police as a crowd shouted abuse.

Among others who died over the holiday were three pensioners, two of them sisters, who were killed in a head-on crash after attending an Easter Sunday chapel service.

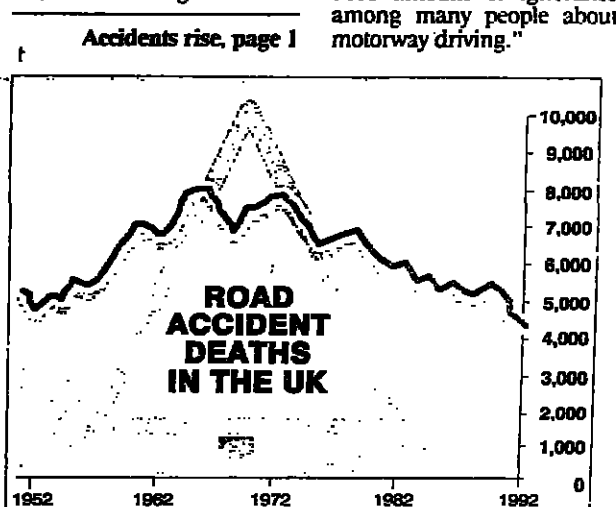
Eunice Jones, 71, was driving her sister, Catherine Pugh, 81, and their brother-in-law, John Roberts, 81, to their homes in Aberangell on the Powys-Gwynedd border when her Vauxhall Nova spun into the path of an oncoming car after it collided with another vehicle.

Four people died in a head-on crash in Woodingdean, Brighton, on Sunday night. They were named as Anthony Manetta, 46, from Brighton, and his daughter Abbey, 19, who were in a Westfield "kit" car which collided with an Austin Montego containing Bertie Williams, 67, also of

Brighton, and his wife, Margaret, 63.

At Liphook, Hampshire, Emma Robinson, 22, died when her car left the road and hit a tree. The driver of a Ford Escort who was killed when his car hit a tree near Redditch, Hereford and Worcestershire, on Sunday was named as Dennis Bryce, 40, from Birmingham.

Accidents rise, page 1



Four died when two cars crashed in Brighton

## Trader killed over fake note

A SHOPKEEPER was stabbed to death and his brother seriously injured as they tried to stop a man passing a forged £20 note as they were closing their store.

Khadim Hussain, 28, had gone to the aid of his brother Mohammed Yaqub, 24, when he challenged a man entering KHI Foodstores in Luton, Bedfordshire, on Sunday night. Mohammed spotted that the note was fake, after which an argument started. The man produced a knife and stabbed Mohammed.

The brothers, who are both married with young children, were left lying in pools of blood by the attacker. Khadim was critically ill in hospital last night.

A neighbour said yesterday: "These young men worked long hours and were making a success of their business. They were trying to protect their livelihoods."



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## Video games boost martial arts

# Karate kids give traditional youth sports the chop

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY

COMPUTER video games featuring karate fighters are turning martial arts into the second most popular sport for boys after football, according to recent market research.

Games such as *Streetfighter 2*, *Body Blows* and *Brawl Brothers*, known as in the trade as "beat-em-ups", in which the player smashes his way through opponents on the screen with electronic chops, kicks and punches, are interesting more and more boys in the real thing.

In-depth interviews with eight- to 14-year-olds for the launch of a new children's comic found that martial arts were ahead of motor sport and fishing in popularity, and surpassed only by football, according to Graham Woodham, of market researchers Parker Tanner Woodham.

"We were surprised at the finding and our impression was that there was a definite link with computer games," said "With boys aged eight to 14, the interest in football is almost obligatory. Then the sports interest becomes more

fragmented, but martial arts certainly are the second most popular."

The English Karate Governing Body agrees that video games have given the sport a surge of popularity. Mike Dinsdale, the organisation's general secretary, said that 60,000 youngsters were practising karate in affiliated clubs and greater numbers were involved in clubs outside the EKGB.

"Then you can double the total for boys who are interested in watching but don't participate, and that's only for karate," he said. "There are thousands and thousands more youngsters interested in judo and aikido and the other martial arts. The growth is no surprise to us. The whole area is growing in popularity all the time. I see it going from strength to strength."

Mr Dinsdale, a karate black belt for 23 years, whose organisation is recognised by the Sports Council, rejected the idea that young people practising martial arts were learning violence. "The opposite is

true," he said. "They are practising self-control and discipline. They are learning the confidence to restrain themselves."

Within the game world, "beat-em-ups" are becoming more popular than their close relatives, "shoot-em-ups", in which, typically, aircraft dog-fight and shoot each other out of the sky. "Martial arts are expressed graphically in a very strong way in computer games," Roger Bennett, of the European Leisure Software Publishers' Association, said. "There are about a dozen on the market now and there will be more."

Mr Woodham said that the popularity of "beat-em-ups" was due to the delight boys took in combat, allied to the exotic oriental nature of martial arts. "They are just so much more mystical and mysterious than boxing, for example," he said. "The boys fantasise that they have super-human martial arts abilities."

"Also, they seem to be frustrated that they have little access to martial arts on television. It is a sport that tends to be shown only on satellite or cable television, so computer games are one area where they can carry on their interest."

Garth Sumpter, editor of *Computer and Video Games* magazine, said that the launch of *Streetfighter 2* by the Japanese company Nintendo last year was responsible for much of the booming demand for such games. "It is a phenomenon in the game world, and one of the most popular games that have ever been sold," he said.

Traditional surveys of young people's interests have failed to pick up the booming enthusiasm for martial arts because they have concentrated on more traditional sports. *Mintel's Youth Lifestyles 1993*, for example, published last month, records preferences for football, swimming, snooker and 13 other sports, but does not ask the 11,000 young people in the survey about karate, judo or aikido.



Kick start: boys getting to grips with the real thing



Prayer in the square: about 500 people rallied in Trafalgar Square yesterday to mark Bosnia's first year of independence

Nato flights, page 10

## Police staff stole from corpses and pocketed fines

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

LEGAL and disciplinary action has been taken against police staff caught stealing cash from corpses and taking fines and cash handed to them by the public. One person has been prosecuted for theft from a corpse.

Money taken in fines vanishing and property confiscated by the West Midlands police had been misused, according to an internal enquiry. The thefts were uncovered during an audit of the West Midlands police authority which employs 10,000 officers and civilian staff and has a £300 million annual budget.

Six officials concentrated their investigation on four areas: the theft of fine monies and cash handed to officers after being found by the public; theft of money from dead bodies; misuse of property held by police; and theft of cash from contingency funds.

The report said that the staff concerned had been dealt with by disciplinary procedures where appropriate and that all the stolen cash would be returned by the authority's insurers or by the alleged thieves.

Lionel Jones, Labour chairman of the police authority, said he was concerned at the report's findings. He did not know who had been involved in the theft but said it could have been police officers, civilians or contractors working for the authority.

Mr Jones said: "Unfortunately we live in the real world. I know that this sort of thing goes on virtually everywhere. It is just that we have a better internal audit system than a lot of other companies, where they are ripping people off but get away with it." He said that it seemed to him that what had been found was minimal

for an organisation the size of the authority.

Although the report said that financial control procedures throughout the West Midlands force operated satisfactorily, the authority's finance and management committee will discuss the thefts on Thursday and may demand a fuller report.

Mr Jones said he wanted to know how many staff were involved in the thefts. "I suspect there are only a handful of cases," he said. His view was the audit had found an area that needed to be improved by tighter security measures and accounting procedures.

Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Erdington, Birmingham, said it was scandalous that some of those involved in the thefts had been subjected to only disciplinary action. "It does not matter whether they are serving officers or civilian staff," he said. "If they have been found guilty of theft at disciplinary proceedings then I want to know why they have not been brought before the courts just like the rest of us would be."

He said that if the evidence was not strong enough to take them to court, those involved should have been dismissed from the service of the authority. "People who work for the police, be they serving officers or otherwise, have a duty of trust laid upon them. In this case this has been betrayed."

Mr Corbett criticised the authority for dealing with the incidents in private. "It is not enough for the police authority to say that only a handful of people are involved. If there was only one bad egg then they should be sacked out. Keeping all this behind closed doors is not very satisfactory at all."

## Young British Indians climb the class ladder

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG people from Britain's Indian and African Asian communities are beating their white school colleagues by winning better education qualifications. They are also starting to join the managerial and professional classes.

A report by the Policy Studies Institute says that the more highly

qualified among the ethnic minorities may have improved their position because they offered professional skills to the growing service sector.

Young people from all ethnic minorities are more likely to remain in full-time education after 16 than their white counterparts. The report, based on labour force studies, says that among those aged 16 to 24, 33 per cent of whites are educated to A level or

higher standard compared with 36 per cent of Indians, 41 per cent of African Asians and 44 per cent of Chinese.

That educational achievement is being reflected in admissions to universities and colleges. Indians and African Asians formed a higher proportion of admissions in 1989-90 than they do of overall population of the same age.

David Smith, who headed the research, said yesterday that the find-

ings reflected the position of migrants anywhere in the world. "They have had to struggle and make great efforts to overcome difficult circumstances. We are now seeing the results."

In spite of those successes, overall unemployment was much higher for all ethnic minorities. But by the end of the 1980s the gap had almost closed in the case of men of Indian, African Asian or Chinese origin.

## Mackay defends aid change

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, yesterday robustly defended the changes in legal aid, dismissing claims that more than 12 million people would lose out.

The changes, which came into effect yesterday, restrict entitlement to legal aid and impose higher charges on those who have to contribute to costs. Lord Mackay said that claims that 12 million people would be adversely affected were unrealistic. "The total number of people who use the courts each year is nowhere approaching that," he said.

Under the new arrangements, an individual is entitled to free civil legal aid if his or her disposable income is £2,294, compared with £3,060 under the old scheme. Those granted civil legal aid on payment of a contribution will now have to pay one third instead of one quarter of their disposable income above the free legal aid limit, up to a maximum of £6,800, or £7,500 in personal injury cases. Contributions will also be payable throughout a case instead of being limited to one year in a civil case and six months in criminal cases.

However, the Law Society, which is challenging the changes in the courts, said that 10,000 people a month would be affected.

## Thieves as young as 8 prey on old

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BURGLARS as young as eight have been discovered by a Scotland Yard team investigating gangs of itinerant thieves who gain entry to the homes of elderly people by posing as people in distress or as officials.

Operation Worker has become so successful in investigating a crime known as "burglary artifice" that it is being studied by forces around Britain. Evidence from detectives on the vulnerability of victims has led to plans for a crime prevention campaign later this year by public utility companies and police.

A study of 1,000 victims last year found that none were under 58 and the vast majority were in their 80s. Many kept more valuables at home than even their families realised. In one investigation, police stepped in as the burglars were at the door and found that the 85-year-old victim, unknown to her son, had £270 in her purse.

One burglar admitted stealing £20,000 in cash and jewellery from a victim, and another kept a London street guide marked with the addresses of sheltered accommodation. Each entry carried a code showing whether they were good, bad or average for burglaries.

All the burglars work by making contact at a front door, gaining entry and then distracting their victim while

they search the house themselves or slip away and let in an accomplice. Children and women claiming to be in distress have been used. One young suspect is believed to have carried out 50 burglaries.

In many cases the burglars posed as gas or electricity officials making an emergency call. In 50 per cent of crimes the burglars claimed to be from water boards calling about leaks, contamination or drains. They identified victims by following them from shopping centres or post offices or checking streets posing as odd-job men looking for work.

Many cases may go unreported because the victim is too befuddled to realise what has happened or too embarrassed. One burglar admitted taking £4,000 over four months from an elderly woman who never went to the police.

Det Sgt Malcolm Barber, who heads the team, said: "It's a pernicious, cynical crime and a despicable one. It changes lifestyles. Most of the victims lose confidence. They become reclusive." Some victims may never recover from the upset and die soon after.

The five-man team, based in northeast London, has turned a clear-up rate of 0.6 per cent in 1989 to 37 per cent last year; one of the highest success rates for any crime. Its targets are about 800 suspects, including 120 "professionals".

## Pensioner rode bike along M5

A MAN aged 72 rode his bicycle for three miles in the wrong direction on a motorway. Ronald Warburton cycled along the hard shoulder of the M5 before pushing his bike across six lanes of traffic and setting off the other way.

Mr Warburton, of Smethwick, West Midlands, was seen between junctions 1 and 2 in Birmingham on Saturday. Alarmed motorists rang police who were watching on security cameras at the Midland motorway control centre as Mr Warburton dismounted and carried out his U-turn. A patrol car was sent to collect him and officers escorted him to safety.

Constable Peter Gayden said: "It was absolutely incredible. Mr Warburton is a very lucky man. We first picked him up on the motorway video camera and I couldn't quite believe my eyes. It is bad enough to take a bike on to a motorway at all, but to be heading the wrong way is sheer madness."

"He was a pretty cool customer considering what he had just done. I think he quite surprised a few drivers as he cycled along the hard shoulder. When he was wandering down the central reservation, cars were whizzing past him just a matter of inches away."

"All we could do was give him some suitable advice and tell him, 'On yer bike.' It wasn't worth bringing charges."

## Roman coins to hit £3,000 'jackpot'

By JOHN SHAW

A HOARD of Roman coins found on a building site in Norfolk is expected to make £3,000 at Christie's in London later this month. The 142 coins, dating from AD61, were found by Brian Read while he was working on a 3ft trench for bungalow footings at Scole, near Diss, in 1982.

Mr Read noticed green specks scattered in the soil and thought the first coin he picked up was a button. As he dug into the soil, bronze and silver coins began tumbling from the side of the trench. "They showered out as if I had won the jackpot on a one-armed bandit," he said. He realised they were

worth something when he saw what looked like Roman heads on the coins.

The area was the site of a Roman settlement and the Roman silver Denarii coins and Icent silver units are thought to have been buried at a time when the local community feared Roman reprisals in the wake of Queen Boudicca's revolt in AD61. About 100 of them will be auctioned in London on April 28.

Another Roman find is estimated to fetch up to £12,000 at auction later this month after being discovered by three metal-detecting enthusiasts in a 13-acre field near Rutland Water, Leicestershire, in 1991.

Janet Holmes, Victor Stubbs and his

wife Thelma, of Melton Mowbray, unearthed 784 coins which were also declared treasure trove. A number of the coins have been purchased by the British Museum and a local museum, with the remainder due to be auctioned at Sotheby's on April 20. They have been dated to AD350-400, the beginning of a turbulent time for the Romans in Britain when the Picts were invading from the north and the Saxons from the south.

It is believed the coins were buried by a legionary. A gold two-faced ring showing a man and a woman is thought to be his engagement ring. The hoard would have represented about 18 months' pay for a Roman soldier.

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## Proposals to privatise Forestry Commission land could put ancient rights of way in jeopardy

### Walkers fear loss of forest access

Ramblers are unconvinced by Forestry Enterprise's stated objective: to meet a growing demand for countryside access

By JOHN YOUNG

BRITAIN'S army of weekend walkers fears access to huge areas of woodland could be denied if the government proceeds with plans to privatise more than two million acres of Forestry Commission land.

The ramblers' concern follows years of deforestation, in which many woodlands have been bulldozed to accommodate roads, housing and industrial development, or to "reclaim" land for agriculture. After Ireland, England has the lowest tree cover in Europe at 7.3 per cent, compared with 22 per cent in Italy and 27 per cent in France. Scotland and Wales do rather better, with 12.6 and 11.6 per cent respectively, but are still near the bottom of the list.

Sir John Johnson, chairman of the Countryside Commission, recently described the shortage of trees as abysmal and called for a sustained programme to double the amount of forest and woodland by the middle of next century. He said that more woodland would enhance landscapes, provide new habitats for wildlife and reduce dependence on imported timber.

Last month, Forest Enterprise, which is responsible for managing the Forestry Commission's two million acres of forests and woodlands, pub-

lished a strategy document which listed, among other objectives, the need to meet "a growing public demand for countryside access and recreation for a mainly urban-based society". It added that many of its properties "provide the ideal environment for many recreational pursuits and absorb the pressures of large numbers of visitors".

The Ramblers' Association is unconvinced. It believes that the government's overriding objective is to privatise as much as possible of the commission's holdings as soon as practicable. It says that, in the absence of proper safeguards, privatisation will inevitably mean that ramblers are denied access to the woods which, at present, they are free to roam.

The Countryside Commission has also expressed concern that when land is sold by the Forestry Commission — which it has been doing for several years — the new owners "do not always take the opportunity to grant access". It argues that local authorities must take more effective action to protect existing rights of way or they will lapse and be forgotten.

Predictably, the Forestry Commission disagrees. It points out that large stretches of woodland in places such as Cannock Chase, Stafford-



To the woods: the Ramblers' Association, which in February marked its centenary with an upland walk in Yorkshire, wants access to Britain's woods guaranteed

shire; Thetford Chase, Norfolk; and the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, are open to visitors and that plans for a new national forest in the Midlands and for a number of "community" forests on the outskirts of large towns and cities will help to satisfy the

growing demand for recreational facilities.

In countries which take a more relaxed view of these matters, the perennial confrontation between landowners and ramblers would seem slightly ridiculous. It is undoubtedly exaggerated: there

are thousands of country walks open to the public all over Britain, with a provision of guides and leaflets available from local authorities. Paths are less obstructed than is commonly claimed, although signposting and waymarking leave a lot to be

desired. In many ways, matters are improving. The Countryside Commission is particularly enthusiastic about the government's stewardship scheme, which provides grants for farmers who carry out environmental improvements, including the

provision of public access. It says that several coastal paths, until now confined to a narrow right-of-way strip between farmland and cliffs, have been enhanced by new places to rest and picnic.

One way of avoiding confrontation is to dress properly for the country. Wear a flat cap and waxed jacket and the farmer will bid you a cheery good morning. Dress in shorts, a billous-coloured anorak and a woolly cap with a bobble and he is likely to shout at you for frightening the animals.

## Thousands of blind 'live in poverty and solitude'

By LOUISE HIDALGO

THOUSANDS of blind or partially-sighted people are living in poverty — victims of unemployment and cuts in social services.

More than half the country's one million registered blind people live on or below the poverty line, according to the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Many are old and frail, living alone or with minimal support.

At the last count in 1987, a time of relative boom, only one in five blind people of working age had jobs. With many of those working subsidised by charities or the state, the figure on the open market was even smaller.

Ian Bruce, director-general of the institute, said: "A blind or partially-sighted person's chances of getting a job was half that of other people with a disability before the recession. The situation now is very much worse."

Like many charities during the recession, the institute has seen a rapid increase in demands on its services. Requests from individuals for financial help have doubled.

A survey by the institute two years ago found that more than half the blind and partially-sighted people have savings of less than £500. For most, income support is their only means of survival.

Mr Bruce said that the public had been sympathetic but often failed to realise the scale of the problem. "They tend to think most blind or partially-sighted people are relatively well cared for when the fact is there are vast numbers of elderly blind who live alone, literally in poverty and isolation, with access to few social services."

The situation is compounded by the fact that the old and isolated in particular often find it difficult to get access to the benefits system. Dileep Allirajah, welfare rights officer at Action for Blind People, said: "It's a triple whammy, especially for the old. They are visually impaired so they miss out on sources of information, many of which aren't in braille or large type, they live alone so they are isolated, and they often don't think of themselves as disabled so don't claim

what they could." The result, he believes, is large-scale underclaiming, with many missing out on the average £120 a week to which they could be entitled.

A new benefit, the disability living allowance, has helped. It is the result of months of lobbying by the leading charities. However, there have been growing complaints of its effectiveness being hampered by administrative delays.

Jane Kennedy, Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen, a member of the social services select committee preparing a report on the benefit, said: "It took six months for one man to have his claim renewed, during which time he received nothing. Examples like that are widespread. Administratively, it has been a disaster. Files have been misplaced, appeals are slow and people are left hanging with no explanation."

Cost-cutting in local government is leading to services such as "talking books" in libraries being sacrificed. Laurie Conway, 37, blind virtually from birth and who lives

with his mother in southwest London on a benefit entitlement of £23 a week, believes he is luckier than most.

"At least I have few expenses, but you still have to be frugal," he said. He lost his job as a charity worker five years ago and has not worked since in spite of applying for dozens of jobs. "It is frustrating, but I try to be positive and immerse myself in voluntary work."

□ The Royal National Institute for the Blind is to lead a national campaign later this year to have more information produced in a format that blind people can "read".

Printed information such as bills, tax statements or instructions on medicine bottles is inaccessible to most blind and partially-sighted people. The result is confusion, frustration and dependency on others, the institute says.

It wants government departments to lead the way in producing more information in large print, braille or on tape. It also aims to persuade manufacturers, many of whom use small print on products, to improve their labelling.

There are about only 19,000 braille readers in the UK. The institute estimates that wider use of large print would give almost half of the country's blind and partially-sighted people some kind of independence and access to information.

BT introduced bills in braille and large print two years ago but few other utility companies have followed suit. The four main clearing banks produce statements in braille but most blind or partially-sighted people still cannot use cash dispensers.

Whitehall has performed little better. Only two of the 30 citizens' charters issued to date — those for patients and for people seeking employment — have been published in braille.



Howard: failed to save motorway signposts

### Folkestone loses place on map

By TIM JONES

TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE failure by Michael Howard, the environment secretary, to prevent plans to remove Folkestone from motorway destination signs has raised fears about its future as a cross-Channel ferry port.

The name of the ancient port is to be erased from M25 and M20 route indicators as far south as Ashford and replaced with signs to Eurotunnel's Channel tunnel services.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, rejected attempts by Mr Howard, the MP for Folkestone and Hythe, to save the signs. Mr MacGregor said that 1991 figures showed that Folkestone's port was in decline. He has also infuriated Hoverspeed, whose SeaCat services to Boulogne provide the only crossing to France from Folkestone, by refusing to signpost its service.

William Moses, Hoverspeed's managing director, said: "With such a decision clearly biased towards Eurotunnel, there is a distinct lack of commitment to stimulate competition."

He accused Mr MacGregor of relying on out-of-date figures. "SeaCat was not introduced until April last year. Since then the route has shown a 95 per cent increase in advance car bookings."

## Hypnotist's clients shown secret video

By CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND RICHARD FORD

WOMEN who visited a hypnotist seeking help for diet, weight loss and stress problems have spent Easter being shown videos by detectives investigating whether they were indecently assaulted and filmed while under hypnosis.

Almost 200 women have called a hotline set up by police after a raid on the east London home of a hypnotist. It yielded 30 videos of sessions which showed women of all ages being indecently assaulted while in a trance.

One woman was profoundly shocked when she was shown a video of someone undergoing "treatment", who was apparently sexually assaulted and who she identified as herself. Psychologists say

that women who have been sexually assaulted while under hypnosis will suffer trauma and stress on discovery: their relationships and sex lives are likely to suffer serious difficulties and, in the worst cases, some women may be driven to contemplate suicide.

Psychologists said yesterday that women who have been sexually assaulted while under hypnosis will suffer trauma and stress on discovery: their relationships and sex lives are likely to suffer serious difficulties and, in the worst cases, some women may be driven to contemplate suicide.

### 'Intimacy in these cases is similar to incest. It is followed by doubt and fear'

said that some women would be revolted by the idea of sexual intercourse with their partners and may not want to engage in lovemaking for many months. "The victims might need to seek help from marriage guidance, counsellors as well as therapists able to help them deal with feelings of disgust, betrayal, self-denigration or serious bouts of depression."

Mr Heap said that many women would be angered by the implication that they were so out of control that a sexual assault could occur without their knowledge. "There will be problems of trust and difficulties of a sexual nature. The strain on ordinary relationships will be quite considerable. A woman might find it difficult to have a sexual experience for some time."

Taking a chance, page 13

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Burglars take the kitchen sink

Thieves stole the kitchen sink when they stripped a waterfront house after the burglar alarm was turned off because of neighbours' complaints.

The thieves cut radiators from the walls, took the kitchen units and cooker as well as curtain rails, skirting boards and doors as they gazed the unoccupied £250,000 house overlooking the Kingsbridge estuary in south Devon, in an operation that must have taken several hours. They also stole two sets of baths, lavatories, showers and bidets in the raid, reported at the weekend.

The owner, a man in his sixties from Wiltshire, was away on holiday after spending six months in hospital recovering from a heart attack.

### Couple robbed

A gang of three masked men threatened Sidney Cooke, 76, and his wife Christine, 72, of Oakerhorpe, Derbyshire, with a pistol and bound and gagged them before escaping with their £8,000 savings.

### Murder enquiry

A murder enquiry was begun after the death of Dennis Brown, 71, a part-time cab driver, who was attacked in his taxi 12 days ago at Uxtoneter, Staffordshire.

### Prison brew

A London wine company is to import 10,000 cases of Colditz beer, a German lager brewed in the shadow of the fortress that served as a prison camp during the second world war.

### Newsagent hit

A robber fractured the skull of a Leeds newsagent with a hammer. The attacker escaped with a bag of cash and six packets of cigarettes.

### Headie feat

John Evans, 46, a builder, raised £500 for medical charities at Giltbrook, Nottinghamshire, after balancing an eight-stone barmaid and 30 empty beer crates on his head.

### Shark netted

Fishermen searching for sole netted a three-ton, 18ft basking shark off Hastings, East Sussex. Five men later carved the shark into steaks.

### Walker dies

A fell walker who collapsed and died near Sedburgh, Cumbria, on Sunday was named as Keith Strange, 58, from south London.

### Police pelted

Police were pelted with mud when they were called to a rave party in a quarry near St Austell, Cornwall.



Fingertip control: BT sends out bills in braille. Few firms have followed suit

## Computer footprints to stamp out crime

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A NATIONAL system of matching shoe patterns by computer could help police to catch criminals by linking footprints taken from the scene of crimes to shoes worn by suspects.

A report on the feasibility of the scheme, which could be used by all Britain's 43 police forces, is being considered by the Forensic Science Service. Footprints in soil, from windblown and from polished floors would be lifted using techniques similar to fingerprinting and the data fed into

a desk-top computer. Matches could then be made within a minute with other crimes and the type and make of shoe the suspect was wearing. Up to 100,000 different shoe patterns could be stored, ten times the number held in the Metropolitan Police footprint library.

The system could also be used to enhance the prints and to match small details in them with shoes taken from a suspect. The aim is to produce evidence in a form acceptable to a court.

## Armageddon comet will bring only fireworks

By ALAN HAMILTON

REPORTS that the world would end with a bang on August 14, 2126, were premature. Astronomers have calculated that Comet Swift-Tuttle, a lump of builders' rubble from the construction site of the universe, will not collide with Earth after all, but will instead offer our great-grandchildren a dazzling fireworks display.

Last year, scientists at the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge, who were tracking the comet's orbit, predicted that on its next visit to this corner of the sky there would be a one-in-10,000 chance of a life-destroying celestial shunt — long odds but enough, the astronomers said, to

cause concern. All the water in the seas would be thrown up to drown the land and all the dust in the atmosphere would be stirred up to blot out the sun.

Intimations of Armageddon have been put back in their box and wild schemes to destroy the comet with lasers placed on the Moon have been shelved. After extra months of observation at telescopes around the world, and equipped with more detailed data, the astronomers now say with confidence that Swift-Tuttle will miss Earth by several days and about 110 million miles. On the galactic wicket that is still a close shave to leg stump, but we should be not out.

The comet, an unwelcome lump of

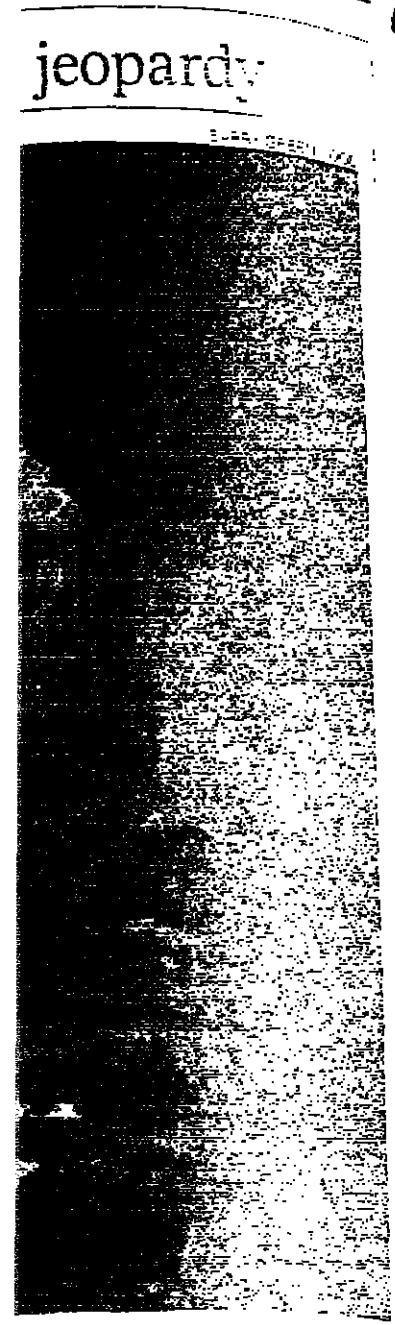
ice and dust, visited these parts on its long elliptical orbit last November, faintly visible as a fuzzy blob near the constellation of Hercules. It is now on its return journey to the outer darkness around the back of Pluto.

Dr Peter Andrews, of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, said yesterday that, were Swift-Tuttle to have hit Earth, it would have created the biggest explosion the world had known. "The comet is five to ten kilometres wide, but when it approaches the Sun's heat it will have a tail of gases a million miles long. Now that we know it is going to miss the Earth, the only thing it will give us is a fantastic light show; it will be brilliantly visible." But not until 2126.

Not all comets miss. A collision is thought to have brought on the last great ice age and rendered the dinosaurs extinct. Another in AD440 is believed to have plunged northern Europe into the Dark Ages. More recently, in 1908, a celestial body crashed in Siberia. Other comets have variously been credited with bringing the necessary molecules for the beginnings of life on Earth, and for delivering the AIDS virus from heaven only knows where.

Far from a bang, Swift-Tuttle should bring only whimpers of delight at its pyrotechnic display in the night sky of 2126 — provided those primitive astronomers of 133 years before got their sums right.





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# Spain faces June poll amid scandals and economic ills

FROM EDWARD OWEN  
IN MADRID

■ The recession and squabbles in his own party meant the Spanish leader could not hang on to October. His survival remains in doubt

FELIPE González, the Spanish prime minister, announced yesterday that he was calling a general election on June 6, instead of his original hope of holding out until the end of his mandate in October. He made the move in an attempt to gain the electorate's approval for the severe measures required to combat the deteriorating economy and increasing unemployment.

"I have called the elections for June 6," the prime minister said. "The other alternative was October, and I have always thought we should maintain the process until its natural end. But I believe that it is more convenient for the country to face up to the economic crisis and create more stability by letting the citizens decide the action which should be taken."

The other, more unsavoury, reasons for the election call are that it was precipitated by a scandal involving illegal contributions to the Socialist party during the last elections in 1989, a split within the party that Señor González tried to

bridge with a fragile pact last weekend, and poll forecasts that put the main opposition, the right-wing Popular Party, on level pegging with the Socialists.

It has been predicted that the Popular Party would be ahead by election time in October, when analysts say that the economic situation will be even worse.

The fright that Señor González and his once complacent party have suddenly appeared to have suffered, after more than ten years in power with little opposition, is underlined by the hasty timing of the announcement. King Juan Carlos had to return to the Zarzuela palace in Madrid yesterday from Lanzarote in the Canary Islands to sign the decree dissolving the Cortes. The royal family was resting in the Canaries after the recent death of the king's father, Don Juan.

The black tie that Señor González wore yesterday after-

noon at his press conference after seeing the king took on extra significance. Although he pushed the charm button to maximum and tried to radiate confidence, many at the Moncloa palace wondered how close he is to his own political funeral.

Until recently Señor González had little to fear from José María Aznar, the leader of the Popular Party, the main opposition in the Cortes, until the opinion polls showed him gaining support. The prime minister also has rivals within his own unhappy ranks. At the weekend he ousted Alfonso Guerra, 52, his old friend but ideological rival, from his usual task of running electoral campaigns and took over complete charge.

He obviously hopes that he can cosmetically unite the divided Socialists, at least until the elections, but afterwards a special congress is in store for the party and Señor González seems to be tiring of some of

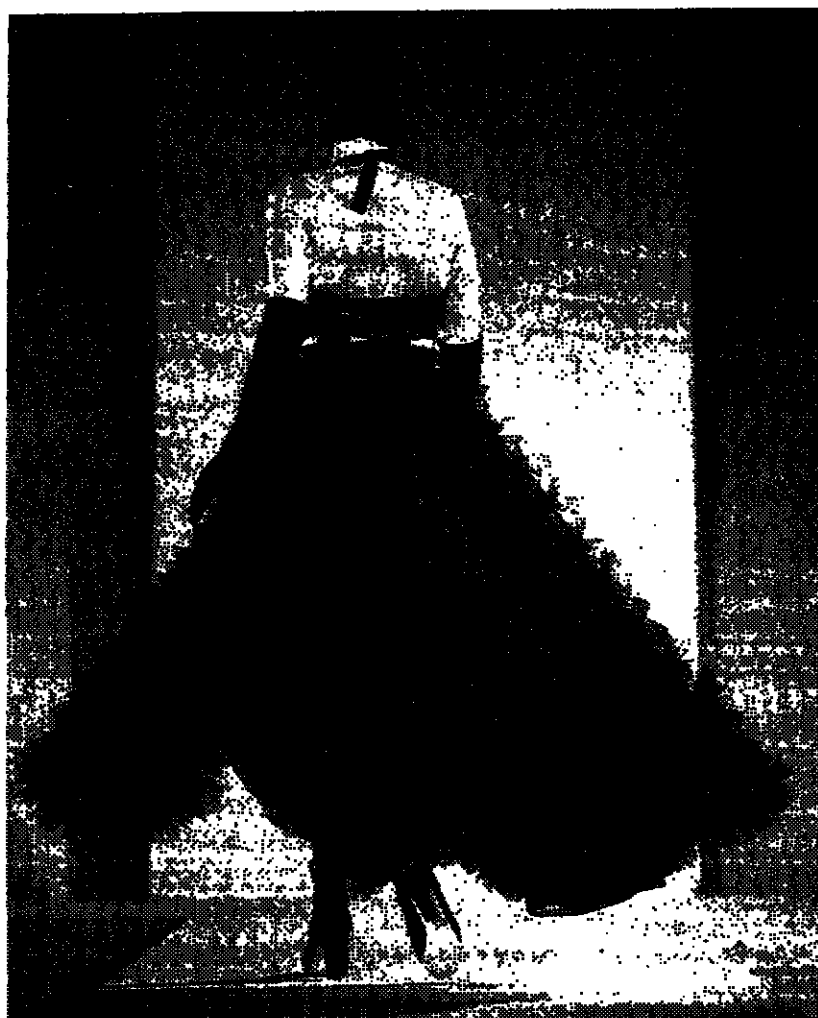
his colleagues. It was details of how the last Socialist electoral campaign in 1989 was financed that brought about another drop in public opinion, already hit by revelations of handsome commissions to government aides by grateful contractors of the Madrid-Seville high-speed train and other huge public works projects involving the Olympic Games and the Expo World Fair.

A Madrid judge still has to decide on prosecutions after 66 million was paid by 15 major banks and companies to help the Socialists' re-election campaign.

This time Señor González has promised reduced expenses for all parties and that his candidates — Señor Guerra can no longer choose his own favourites — will have to declare all their assets and interests. The prime minister has also pledged that the party accounts will be opened to public scrutiny.



Bearing witness: Abraham Bajraszewski, right, and Stanislaw Rozanek, former Polish inmates of the Nazi concentration camp at Buchenwald, lay flowers at the camp on the 48th anniversary of its liberation



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## Myth shattered as Italy's Beelzebub runs out of tricks

FROM ANDREA DI ROBILANT IN ROME

In the glare of the studio lights a half-dozen journalists were questioning Giulio Andreotti about his alleged Mafia connections when his paper-thin lips finally twitched. And speaking of his accusers, he hissed: "The miserable scoundrels."

To see the once unflappable Signor Andreotti lose his cool in front of millions of television viewers reflected a crucial turning point. Signor Andreotti embodied more than anyone else the regime that governed Italy during the Cold War: his fall implies the system has indeed collapsed and a new age in Italian politics can begin.

These days Italians are growing accustomed to expect the unexpected. Still, the news that even Signor Andreotti had been caught up in scandal was a shock to many. For over the years the man had become something of a mythical figure.

The main source of the myth, of course, was the sheer length of his political career. Signor Andreotti first joined the government at the age of 28 in the powerful post of under-secretary to the prime minister in 1948, at the start of Italy's first republic.

Another element that nurtured the myth was the range of his experience in government. At one time or another he held all the leading cabinet posts: foreign affairs, defence, treasury, industry, and overseeing the budget. He also held the post of prime minister seven times, starting in the early 1970s.

Abroad, he was probably the best known Italian politician and was seen as one of the very few statesmen the country had

produced in the postwar period. Henry Kissinger described him as "the leader who has contributed most to the history of his country after world war two".

At home, the company he kept was rather more suspect, ranging from men such as murdered bankers Michele Sindona and Roberto Calvi to corrupt entrepreneurs and seedy political operators. The shady side of Signor Andreotti's life contributed to the idea that he was the keeper of all state secrets, the key to the mysteries of the first republic. He was nicknamed Lucifer, Mephistopheles and even Beelzebub, Lord of the Flies.

He carried an aura of invincibility. Over the years he came under investigation 26 times, but he always shielded himself behind parliamentary immunity. And when his accusers attacked him in public and in the press, he never countered because he never felt threatened. Time always seemed on his side.

Increasingly, the myth was prevailing over the man. He appeared ever-lasting, the soul of the eternal Christian Democratic Party. And when the first corruption scandals began to undermine the system last year, many expected Signor Andreotti to remain untainted.

Signor Andreotti, 74, now says he is the victim of a conspiracy. Few people believe him, and the main reason is that, according to the old myth, it was he — the inscrutable Beelzebub — who was behind every plot.

Andrea di Robilant is the diplomatic correspondent of La Stampa.

## Andreotti's fate lies in Senate's hands

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

NEWSPAPER reports that two Mafia informers have linked Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian prime minister, to the 1978 kidnapping of Aldo Moro and to the assassination of a journalist with links to the secret services have heightened political tensions here.

Tomorrow sees a meeting of the Senate committee which is due to consider a request from Palermo magistrates for Signor Andreotti's parliamentary immunity to be lifted. The magistrates wish to proceed against him for alleged complicity with the Mafia. The testimony of the two former Mafia bosses Tommaso Buscetta and Francesco Marino Mannoia to Palermo magistrates in New York has been sent to the Senate to support the request.

The two reportedly said that the journalist Mino Pecorelli had been killed by the Mafia in 1979 because he was intending to name the politicians behind the Red Brigades' kidnapping and murder of Moro, then the Christian Democrat prime minister, a year earlier. Moro was at odds with



Moro: mystery over kidnapping revived

the right wing of his party as well as with America because he wanted to bring the Communists into government.

There may be a thread linking the deaths of both Pecorelli and Moro and that of General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, the carabinieri general murdered by the Mafia in 1982. In 1979, Buscetta said, the Mafia had been asked to help in the murder of the general, who had been responsible for the defeat of the Red Brigades and was in a position to know a lot about the Moro affair.

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# Bosnian dilemma ensures a troublesome holiday for Clinton



Yeltsin: Clinton relies on his survival in office

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON'S children hunted for Easter eggs on the White House lawn yesterday, while President Clinton was searching for something far more elusive — an escape from a hideous dilemma over Bosnia that had grown increasingly acute over the holiday weekend.

On the one hand Vitaly Churkin, Russia's deputy foreign minister, was in Washington imploring the administration to postpone yesterday's scheduled vote in the United Nations to tighten sanctions against the Serbs. He argued that Russia could not support even such a modest step, let alone more forceful measures against Russia's tra-

**Conflicting advice is of little help to Mr Clinton in dealing with the deteriorating situation in the Balkans. He is in growing danger of falling out with his European allies**

ditional allies, without seriously undermining Boris Yeltsin before his critical referendum on April 25. Mr Clinton's economic and foreign policies are predicated on Mr Yeltsin's survival.

But on the other hand, the pressure on the president to stop the carnage grew ever greater. Defying UN pleas, increasingly contemptuous of the possibility of Western military intervention, Serb forces continued to close in on Srebrenica, the east Bosnian

Muslim enclave packed with thousands of desperate and starving refugees.

In a highly embarrassing leak, *The New York Times* disclosed that an administration task force Mr Clinton had himself sent to Bosnia had last month recommended military intervention to establish "safe havens" for Bosnia's Muslims, secure supply routes and silence Serbian artillery. It suggested the humanitarian relief efforts were of "limited utility" as long as the conflict continued. Its recommendations

conflicted with administration policies and unnamed senior officials were said to have told the group to withhold them from Congress.

Pressure for US intervention has also become intense, though there is as yet little popular disquiet.

In yesterday's *New York Times*, Sadrudin Aga Khan, the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, called the Vance-Owen peace plan "diplomacy on the cheap", and said the UN had become the "world's figleaf". He demanded a "measured and determined" military response.

In an adjacent article, Anthony Lewis, a liberal columnist and the administration's self-appointed scourge on Bosnia, said that if Srebrenica fell

"Bill Clinton and the credibility of American power in the world will also be victims". Mr Clinton had to "tell the Serbs to stop the sieges of Srebrenica and Sarajevo at once. And if they ignore the ultimatum, use American air power to take out their guns".

From his own advisers the president is receiving conflicting advice. Broadly speaking, the State Department argues for sticking with sanctions on the ground that Britain and France, let alone Russia, would countenance neither lifting the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims nor direct military action. Both measures would almost certainly end humanitarian relief operations.

The Pentagon's top brass argues that neither arming the

Bosnians nor air strikes would have much practical impact on the fighting, but Les Aspin, the defence secretary, is said to be more favourably disposed to both steps, as are influential figures in the White House and the National Security Council.

Officials emphasise that the use of force is still an option if peace talks fail. "I do not think we are giving up on it," said one. "We are going to look at it."

Despite its best efforts, the US has been sucked gradually but steadily closer to the Balkan whirlpool — allowing itself to become directly involved in the peace negotiations, promising to help enforce militarily any settlement, conducting emergency airdrops and, from yesterday,

helping enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia. It is now approaching the point of final decision and, as one British official put it, "the momentum to do something is very strong" — not least because of Mr Clinton's strong denunciations of President Bush's passivity towards Bosnia during last year's election, when he was trying to prove he was not "soft on defence".

The worst scenario would be a confrontation between the US, driven by what its perceives as its historic mission to protect the needy, and its more pragmatic European allies, who will not be lured into a Balkan quagmire. Such a confrontation could cause enduring damage to the already strained transatlantic relations.

## UN delays Belgrade sanctions as no-fly zone takes effect

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK  
AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

AS NATO planes started to enforce the no-fly zone above Bosnia yesterday, key members of the United Nations Security Council agreed to postpone a vote on tightening sanctions against Yugoslavia until after the Russian referendum on April 25.

The measure, designed to save President Yeltsin from criticism by pro-Serb Russian nationalists, was taken on the basis that Moscow had promised to support the sanctions package after the referendum on the leadership. But international officials expressed the fear that Russia might continue to block new measures against its traditional Serb allies even then, throwing the entire Bosnian peace process into doubt.

"There is a lot of anxiety now that they will not deliver," said one senior international official who has been deeply involved in peace talks.

Radovan Karadzic, leader of the Bosnian Serbs, has threatened to end negotiations if sanctions are imposed against Serbia and gave a warning that policing the no-fly zone was a risky operation

that could lead to an escalation in the war.

Against a backdrop of the continued shelling of Srebrenica, in which 35 people were killed yesterday, Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian president, who was setting out for a pilgrimage to Mecca, made a new appeal to Islamic countries to save his people from annihilation by Serb forces.

The sanctions resolution, which was due to be adopted yesterday, was intended to toughen the existing UN embargo on Yugoslavia to force Belgrade to make the Bosnian Serbs accept the peace plan drawn up by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance.

The resolution would have banned almost all trans-shipment of goods across Yugoslav territory or through Yugoslav coastal waters, frozen Yugoslavia's foreign assets, and authorised the seizure of trains, planes, ships or lorries involved in sanctions busting. But the additional sanctions would not have come into effect for 15 days, to give the Serbs a chance to endorse the Vance-Owen peace plan.

The security council initially planned to vote on the resolution last week, after Bosnia's Muslim-led government joined the Bosnian Croats in accepting the Vance-Owen plan. However, the council members agreed to a week's delay because of Russian misgivings about taking further action against the Serbs without giving them a chance to reconsider their position on the Vance-Owen plan. Russia then sought a new delay, threatening to use its power of veto in the security council for the first time since 1984, when it was still the Soviet Union.

After an appeal by President Yeltsin to the United States at the weekend, Washington agreed to support a further postponement. Britain, France and Spain also agreed, making it inevitable that the full security council would put off a vote.

Andreï Kozirev, the Russian foreign minister, said the delay would hold "provided that the ceasefire observed during the recent weeks in Bosnia remains in effect, and there are no actions that can be viewed as 'ethnic cleansing'." Otherwise the security council would have to resort to "most decisive measures".

Security council members insisted, however, that when the resolution was re-introduced in two weeks' time it would omit the 15-day waiting period before the new sanctions come into force. They argued that there would be, as a result, effectively no delay in the application of new sanctions on Yugoslavia.

But privately they complained about the uncertainty caused by Russia's hesitation to take action against the Serbs, and voiced fears that there has been a fundamental shift in Russia's Balkan policy that endangers the peace process begun at last summer's London Conference on the former Yugoslavia.

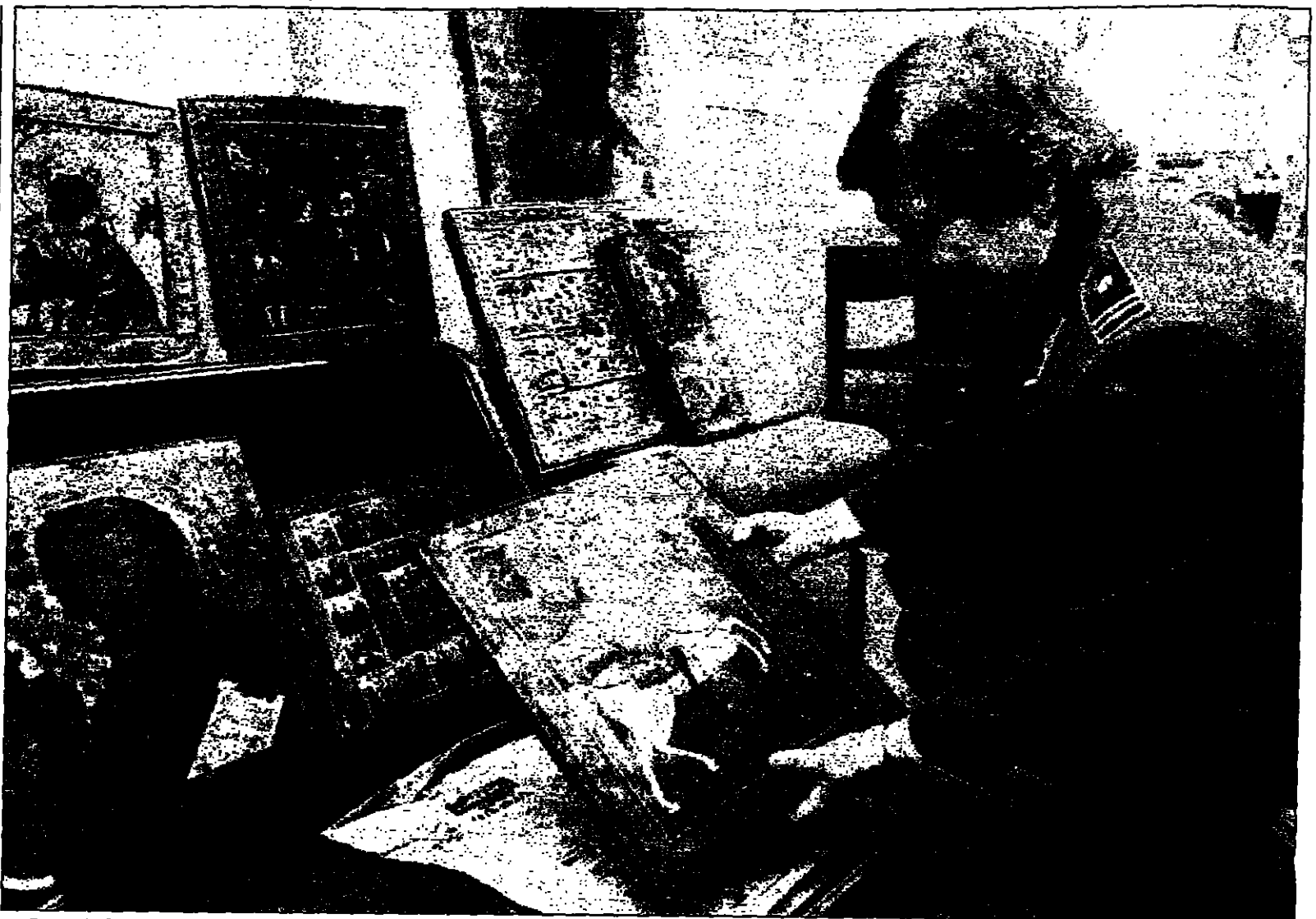
Vitaly Churkin, Mr Yeltsin's special envoy to Bosnia, who met Mr Vance on Sunday, has recently taken a much tougher pro-Serb line, suggesting that concessions are made to secure the Bosnian Serbs signature on the Vance-Owen peace plan. Reginald Bartholomew, the United States special envoy, is expected in Belgrade tomorrow to continue negotiations.

Already, the mediators are talking about the need for European Community members and other nations to impose additional sanctions on Yugoslavia without UN approval. Proposals include a freeze on Yugoslav assets within their jurisdiction. They believe the Western powers should make clear that its aid to Russia is linked to continued Russian support for the Bosnian peace plan.

Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets in several German cities yesterday to protest at Germany's growing involvement in military actions. Organisers said about 15,000 people protested in Berlin alone. Smaller demonstrations were also reported in Hamburg, Mainz and elsewhere.

The protesters are angered by German participation in NATO's enforcement of the Bosnian no-fly zone. German aircrafts began flying in the run-up to the key referendum on power.

The defendants, including Gennadi Yanayev, the former vice-president, Valentin Pavlov, the former prime minister, and Vladimir Kryuchkov, the former KGB chief and main organiser of the self-appointed State Emergency Committee, face charges of high treason, still technically punishable by death, and abuse of office, a minor "catch-all" charge. The foreign press has been barred from the court; Russian media are to have limited access.



Symbol of crime: a Russian customs official holding an icon, one of many seized in Moscow after an attempt to smuggle them abroad was foiled. Theft of most commodities is rife in the former Soviet republics. In Estonia, four miles of high-voltage copper wire were stolen in one recent incident

### Russian regional elections

## Capitalist's triumph cheers Yeltsin

FROM ANNE McELVOY  
IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin sets off this week on a busy tour of the provinces, intended to persuade Russia's indifferent and often dissatisfied voters to support his reforms, despite the hardships brought by the past year.

The Yeltsin camp is watching the mood in the provinces, particularly wealthy Siberia and the industrial heartlands, with close interest. Yesterday they had reason to be cheerful as a young business tycoon swept to power as president of the southern Russian republic of Kalmykia, emerging as a clear victor over his rival, an Afghan war veteran.

Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, 31, a businessman who runs 50 ventures ranging from gambling clubs to publishing houses and claims to be a dollar millionaire, stood on a platform to announce his victory, announcing in his campaign: "I am not a communist. I am not a socialist. I am not a democrat. I am a capitalist."

He has pledged to install an "economic dictatorship" and turn the republic, which has oil and gas reserves, into a "second Kuwait". His vigorous campaign style resulted in an



Trend setter: Kalmykia, where the election of Kirsan Ilyumzhinov has boosted the Yeltsin national camp

82 per cent turnout, something which Mr Yeltsin will doubtless keep in mind as he pounds the hustings of Russia.

Results from elsewhere were less encouraging. In the southern region of Oryol, voters replaced a Yeltsin appointee, Nikolai Yudin, with Yegor Stroyev, a former member of the Soviet Communist party's ruling politburo who won 70 per cent of the vote.

Stroyev favoured Chinese-style reforms, where the state would play a strong role, as opposed to the Russian government's radical free-market reforms.

In Penza, about 300 miles southeast of Moscow, the hardliner Anatoli Kovyagin



also replaced a Yeltsin nominee. The usually gruff Russian president, embarking on a schedule of "meet and greets", has engaged the Saatchi and Saatchi advertising agency to help lure recalcitrant voters to the polls.

Mr Yeltsin, facing a challenge to his power by the hardline parliament, is to revert to the populist tactics of his struggle with Mikhail Gorbachev to dispel rumours that he is an effective prisoner of the Kremlin whose only contact with the people is at mass rallies to which his supporters have been summoned in advance.

Last night he had set aside time for a spontaneous ques-

tion-and-answer session with students at a Moscow technical college. There are also trips planned to Siberia. He told the students that Russia would not have to endure another period of "shock therapy" to curb rampant inflation and improve living standards.

"There will be no second shock like we had to go through at the beginning of last year. There is no need for this," he said in a speech to students. But Mr Yeltsin emphasised the importance of fighting inflation, estimated at 2,600 per cent last year.

Television will be the key to his success in the provinces where he needs to counteract the influence of the local soviets, which are pro-Congress. Usually protective of his privacy and even more so of his family's, he has allowed a documentary to be made showing their home life.

His main rival for power, Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker, is harrying television chiefs for more airtime in which to portray himself as a domesticated and well-balanced individual. Having been informed that Mr Yeltsin was off to seek the student vote yesterday, Mr Khasbulatov promptly decided to do the same.

## Tomsk leak worse than thought

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE amount of land contaminated when a tank of radioactive waste exploded at the Tomsk secret weapons complex in Siberia is greater than previously estimated, the atomic energy ministry said yesterday.

At Chernobyl, the No.1 reactor at the nuclear power plant in Ukraine was shut down because of a malfunction in the turbine engine. Tass said. There was no danger of radiation being released, according to Viktor Vasilchenko, the engineer in charge.

The explosion at the Siberian chemical complex last week contaminated about 46 square miles. Then, the atomic energy ministry said, the radioactive zone was about 14 square miles. Later, Sergei Goryev, of the state emergency committee, estimated it at about 75 square miles.

However, a team of environmental experts said the traces of highly toxic plutonium released following the explosion about 1,700 miles east of Moscow posed no danger. The ministry yesterday invited experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency to visit the site.

The Tomsk accident was the worst in the former Soviet Union since the 1986 explosion and fire at Chernobyl, which killed 31 people and spread radioactive contamination over a wide area.

North Korea sharply attacked "high-handed" Russia yesterday over its admission that it secretly dumped highly dangerous nuclear waste off the Korean peninsula. A foreign ministry statement said Moscow had no right to lecture Pyongyang on nuclear issues while it was polluting the global environment itself.

South Korea, fearing a military strike by an increasingly isolated North Korea, said it would ask Peking to use its influence to persuade the North to open up two suspected nuclear facilities.

In Tokyo, Kibun Muto, the foreign minister, said he intended to ask Russia to stop dumping nuclear waste in the Sea of Japan. He said would ask Andrei Kozirev, the Russian foreign minister, due in Tokyo to join a meeting of the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations.

## Kremlin plotters rehearse their roles for the Moscow dock

FROM ANNE McELVOY  
IN MOSCOW

THE 12 men who plotted the failed Moscow coup of August 1991 will go on trial tomorrow in a case whose secrecy and ambiguity is likely to deepen political turmoil in the run-up to the key referendum on power.

The defendants, including Gennadi Yanayev, the former vice-president, Valentin Pavlov, the former prime minister, and Vladimir Kryuchkov, the former KGB chief and main organiser of the self-appointed State Emergency Committee, face charges of high treason, still technically punishable by death, and abuse of office, a minor "catch-all" charge. The foreign press has been barred from the court; Russian media are to have limited access.

We are in for a long and probably incomprehensible courtroom drama involving some of the Soviet Union's best political actors. More than 1,000 witnesses are mentioned on the indictment, including President Yeltsin and his arch-rival, Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary Speaker, but the judge has ruled that no more than 100 should be called. Mikhail Gorbachev, president at the time of the abortive coup, has emphasised that he wishes to testify to clear his name.

The plotters were arrested immediately after the coup and held in prison until their release this January. It had seemed unlikely that the case would come to court, since the Russian legal system allows scant provision for applying the charge of treason to men who could justifi-

ably claim to have been acting to protect the integrity of the Soviet Union. Mr Yeltsin previously seemed unenthusiastic about a trial, perhaps fearing that it could serve as a rallying point for communists. Now he hopes that the plotters will remind people how unappealing is the alternative to democratic reform.

The men's lawyers will argue that Mr Gorbachev, who had intended to sign the Union treaty turning the Soviet Union into a federation, was betraying the constitution, and they will add that the committee was entitled to take emergency measures to prevent the signing. Anatoli Lukyanov, the former parliamentary Speaker, and Mr Yanayev have been claiming that the events were not a coup at all and that a state of emergency had been planned

with Mr Gorbachev's full knowledge. Oleg Shenin, another defendant, claims that the Soviet president's detention at his Crimean dacha was voluntary, and that he had wanted "to wait and gauge the response to events in Moscow".

The prosecution case is riddled with weaknesses. According to Valeri Rudnev of *Izvestia*, "there can be no successful prosecution on the basis of the existing body of Soviet law. The question is how far the judges allow the court to revise the law as they go along, in keeping with the changed circumstances."

The plotters, who at first found themselves disdained by most Russians as much for their bungling incompetence as for their aims, have undergone a gradual rehabilitation in recent months. Mr Shenin

has been elected chairman of the revived Communist party; Mr Lukyanov fills his days giving interviews and treating visitors to his views on English poetry. He appeared on a balcony overlooking Red Square during the fraught Congress of People's Deputies last month calling for the impeachment of Mr Yeltsin.

Mr Yanayev, the committee's figurehead leader, is preoccupied with trying to recall whether he was drunk or not during the coup attempt. Only Mr Kryuchkov has scorned the blather and remains silently confident that the case will fail.

□ New York: Mr Gorbachev said on American television that he saw no chance of former communist hardliners returning to power in Russia if President Yeltsin called early elections. (Reuters)



Yanayev: trying to recall if he was drunk or not



**FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG**

## Far right recruits in Eastern Europe

**FROM RAY KENNEDY**  
**BLACKPANTHERS**

Refugees from Europe knew the "double talk" of people trained under communism. Mr Vermeulen added, "There's no proof that Hani had changed. It was just the same old trickery and the issue has become too emotional. I am sorry he lost his life. A stable person can be glad that somebody is murdered. But these people know what he stood for."

Another possible link between Mr Walus and the AWP was indicated by police who revealed on Sunday night that the gun from which the fatal shots were fired, and which was found in the car driven by Mr Walus, was part of a theft from the headquarters of the South African Air Force in Pretoria: in April 1990. That theft was carried out by Piet "Skiet" Rudolph, a senior member of the AWP until March last year. Mr



Protesters fire, page 1  
R. W. Johnson, page 14

## Clinton's deficit plans produce only surplus rhetoric

The real issue in the Ameri-

# Tokyo anxiety over islands increases

**By JOANNA PITMAN**

The two countries have never signed a postwar peace treaty and Japan views the Russians as unprincipled aggressors, unreliable and unpredictable, an opinion reinforced by Mr Yeltsin's sudden cancellation of his visit to Japan last September.

## Rodney King police trial

# Jury keeps riot city waiting

**FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN LOS ANGELES**

What was once, to most people who watched the videotape of Rodney King being repeatedly struck and kicked by the police officers, a simple case of police brutality has become one of the most complex, and highly charged cases in US legal history. In the first state trial of the officers, the prosecution needed only to prove that the men had used excessive force to arrest Mr King; it failed, and the city erupted in America's worst urban riots this century. This time, to deliver a guilty verdict the jury must conclude that one or more of the officers intentionally and knowingly deprived Mr King of his consti-

testimony, in which he accepted full responsibility for the actions of those under his command, will be enough to sway the jury. Mr Koon expressed no regrets for the beating, and maintained that police rules had been adhered to when a threatening and drunken suspect had been arrested whom Mr Koon was convinced was also high on drugs. However, the jury might interpret the silence of the three other officers as an indication of guilt.

has revolved around who, if anyone, was in control of the situation. In the light of the testimony of Defence lawyers have argued that Mr King was the only individual out of control that night, and have produced witnesses to testify that throughout the incident the policemen were following the somewhat murky rules that govern how force may be used to arrest a suspect.

Government prosecutors, however, described the police officers as "bullies with badges", street toughs no better than the criminals they were supposed to stop, who beat a desperate King into submission out of vengeance and may even have enjoyed it.

The jury has been asked to do the near-impossible as it sifts through the evidence amassed in eight weeks of testimony: namely to ignore the possibility that further riots could result from its verdict.

## Silk and sake as royal couple are engaged on breakfast TV

**FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO**

More accustomed to slipping into a sharp business suit and no-nonsense black

leather shoes in the mornings. Miss Owada had spent, we were told, a good hour being professionally trussed up in a heavy embroidered gold *furusode* silk kimono.

Miss Owada's only words during the ceremony were: "I humbly accept." The ceremony, over in three minutes, is basically unchanged from that conducted in 1959 when Michiko, the current empress, became engaged to the emperor, then the crown prince. But then Miss Owada was always known at the foreign ministry for an approach to duties so industrious that it sometimes kept her at her desk until five in the morning and her appetite

Putting her experience as a US-Japan bilateral trade negotiator behind her, Miss Owada has spent the past two months mastering ancient imperial rituals under erudite nonagenarian tutors. Court etiquette, calligraphy, 31-syllable *tanka* poetry and constitutional studies have filled her daily syllabus.

Just as Princess Diana quickly mastered the art of getting out of a Jaguar XJS elegantly in a miniskirt, Miss Owada has evidently put in the hours studying how to exit a Nissan Cedric saloon in style while wearing a crimpingly restrictive kimono

and thonged zori slippers. While there has been ferocious media interest in Miss Owada since the announcement of her engagement to Crown Prince Naruhito, 32, in January – from her place in her high-school softball team's baffling order to the recipe for her favourite jam – the full weight of Japan's media has delicately skirted the issues which undoubtedly hold the greatest intrigue for Japan's gossip-hungry millions. There has not been a word of whether Miss Owada has had any boyfriends.

But as one onlooker pitifully observed yesterday: "She must be in love with him to be going through with all this."



**Betrothed: Owada at the palace yesterday**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

# Doubt over US PoWs in Vietnam

## Prison riot

## Sikhs jailed

**Delhi:** A court jailed seven Sikhs for life for hijacking an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 in 1984, two months after Indian troops cleared Sikhs from the Golden Temple. (Reuter)

## All change

**Ulan Bator:** President Ochirbat of Mongolia, dumped by his ruling party as its candidate in the presidential election on June 6, will run for the opposition. (Reuters)

## Minister quits

**Karachi:** Jam Mashooq Ali, the Pakistani minister for production, has resigned, the seventh minister to do so, saying that despite complaints he has been left idle by Nawaz Sharif, the prime minister. (AP).

**Metal fatigue**

**Jakarta:** Indonesia will issue fewer permits for rock concert after a weekend riot during performance by the American heavy metal group Metallica. (Reuters)



# When killing is a woman's work

Whether as regular soldiers or fanatical guerrillas, female fighters have always had a role on the battlefield, reports Kate Muir

Tonight, somewhere in the grim wastes of Bosnia, two exhausted women will lay their loaded guns by their beds, throw off their camouflage fatigues, and fall into a fitful sleep. Tomorrow, one will shoulder her SA80 automatic rifle, the other her Kalashnikov. The British woman with the SA80 will go about her daily task of driving a truck in a UN food convoy. The Croatian with the Kalashnikov will go about her daily task of killing Serbs.

Both are volunteer soldiers in the same land, but there the similarities end. The life and rationale of the freedom fighter is far from that of the regular soldier. The Croatian woman is there out of desperation: her life, her home and her family are threatened and all around her is chaos. Either she watches from the sidelines or plunges in.

The British soldier is there after careful consideration, having weighed the different largely practical reasons for joining a peacetime force: career, education, travel, camaraderie, patriotism, a smart uniform, or even the disciplined life. In Bosnia, she — and her male colleagues — are still pursuing their careers while distributing humanitarian aid.

But as far as the history of women in front-line combat goes, the female soldiers in the Croatian Serbian armies are continuing years of tradition. The British female career soldier is the aberration. Since the Greeks, and probably before, women have always fought as irregulars. Because no established state army would have truck with them, female soldiery has been confined to civil wars, guerrilla groups, piracy, ragged half-baked armies, and revolutionary or terrorist cells.

The female soldier has rarely been part of a vast, bureaucratic fighting machine, except on the occasions when she has dressed as a man to follow her politics, or perhaps her husband, into war. An estimated 400 women fought disguised as men or boys in the American Civil War. One woman who "came out" was nicknamed Molly Pitcher because of her dexterity with cannon balls.

If the female freedom fighter were to be typecast, she would appear quite unlike a regular soldier. She is attracted by ideology or nationalism and dragged to the



Call to arms: Bosnian women soldiers patrol the streets of Sarajevo. For many of them, joining the army is preferable to sitting at home and watching their city crumble around them

front by strong emotions, but in peacetime she would find even a whiff of militarism repulsive. She is a non-conformist, the exact opposite of that which a peacetime army requires. Perversely, many British or American female soldiers are attracted by the safety and timetabled solidity of peacetime army life. Battles are the last thing on their minds.

One of the female Bosnian soldiers recently interviewed by Adam Lebor of *The Times* was a fabric designer, with short spiky hair and long pink nails, and on her leave she wore the shortest of miniskirts. She did not look like promising army material.

"The first time I picked up a gun

I felt empty. It's against all my principles and the way I was brought up. If you are a normal person shooting at people cannot make you happy. It's an emotion mixed with madness and disappointment," she said.

Other women soldiers are former students, economists, nurses and hairdressers. One was a runner-up in the Miss Croatia competition — presumably she had to fight to retain her title as well as her nation.

The fabric designer is now part of an elite counter-sniper unit. She joined after a four-year-old girl was shot dead by a sniper in her neighbourhood in Sarajevo. As the war has become bloodier, constantly

targeting civilians, the home front and the battle front have blended seamlessly.

"I don't want all the enemy dead," the designer said. "I just want them to stop this. I get frightened when I'm preparing myself for an operation, when I pack my things, put on my uniform and get into the car. Then I am scared. But when I'm in action there is no time to be frightened. I feel fury and anger but no fear."

For Croatian women without children, joining up is sometimes preferable to sitting at home and watching a city crumble around them. As word came out of Serbian atrocities and the systematic rape of women prisoners as part of "ethnic

cleansing", many more women offered to become soldiers. If this war were being fought according to the Geneva Conventions — which it is not — women soldiers ought to be treated as normal prisoners of war, and might be less likely to be raped.

One soldier, Maya Bocina, aged 21, said she would not think twice about killing female Serbian soldiers, despite the ties of international sisterhood. "They're Serbs, and we know what Serbs do to our women," she told the *Evening Standard*.

Perhaps the rise in feminism has something to do with women's willingness to get involved, although historically, when their

homes and families have been threatened, women have always been willing to take up weapons.

Yet for women, as for men, there is a certain fanaticism which comes into becoming a freedom fighter. Twenty-year-olds of both sexes are attracted to the daring and supposed glamour. The most dangerous armed women have been driven by ideology — the guerrillas of Peru's *Shining Path*, Nicaragua's Sandinistas, Beirut's female suicide car bombers, the Red Brigades and the IRA.

Despite the fact that such examples clearly prove some women are as capable as men of violence in war, afterwards, when women are no longer needed to make up

numbers, there is massive retrenchment. Thousands of Israeli women fought on the front in the war of independence in 1948, yet even now, if war looks likely, Israeli women soldiers are sent back from the battlefield. The British parachuted 39 armed and trained women into France and Germany in the second world war to act as spies and wireless operators, yet it took until 1980 for the army to consider them capable of holding guns again.

The Croatian army has recently decided to freeze women's recruitment — but perhaps few of the designers, economists and hairdressers would want to remain there in peacetime, if it ever comes.

## The land of the rising bun

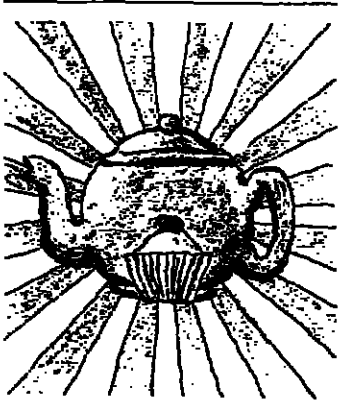
A herd of Jersey cows roaming around the Japanese island of Hokkaido is proving to be a English tea room's salvation, rescuing a dream of clotted cream teas in Tokyo from bureaucratic oblivion.

Why the Japanese have the slightest interest in cream teas, so much so that a replica of a rustic tea-house is being exported there, requires a journey into the heart of the Wiltshire countryside to Fosse Farm, Nettleton.

Outside Fosse Farm, a collection of 300-year-old buildings, I wonder why the Japanese, notorious for never leaving London, want to visit a farmhouse in a field, and why the farmhouse, minus the field, is being exported to Japan. "Please ring me," says a hand-painted notice next to a cow bell. A smiling, blonde-haired woman, complete with Alice hair-band, flings open the door. She giggles: "Come in, come in, come in," and then runs off.

Some time later Caron Cooper returns. "The phone just keeps ringing," she says. "This building, the farmhouse, is my hotel." Last year she had 1,200 Japanese guests, which won her the British Tourist Authority award for most

Tokyo to have a taste of the old English tea shoppe



favoured Japanese hotel in Britain. "Over there," she points out of the window across the garden, "are the stables which I converted into a tea room, the model for the new one in Tokyo. The only problem has been the clotted cream." With the backing of Brian Beazer, former-chairman of the construction company, Miss Cooper will reproduce this tea room in Tokyo

because, she says: "The Japanese, especially the young, love the old English country style. It's like living a dream."

Her six-bedroom hotel became a favourite with the Japanese more than three years ago after a Japanese couple, on holiday in England, recommended Fosse Farmhouse to all of their friends. Magazine articles in Japan followed, a book, and there's even been talk of a television series.

Until she arrived in Tokyo last month to discuss her new tea room, the Japanese, it appears, had made the fatal mistake of assuming that whipped cream on scones was as English as, well, taking tea in the afternoon. Horrified, she explained to them that no scone was complete without clotted cream from Jersey cows.

So began lengthy and delicate negotiations which to date have involved Japanese and British government officials and a Japanese dairy farmer. Japanese bureaucrats, she says, originally told her that the cream was "probably too fatty" for them. "When I told them I'd discovered a herd of Jersey cows on Hokkaido and we could make the cream in Japan, they changed their minds. All that's left to do is teach the Japanese how to make clotted cream."

"Ah, four o'clock," she says, jumping up. "Time for tea," and runs over to the tea room for, she says, a slice of rural England.

In the converted stables Miss Cooper has recreated a picture-postcard version of rural old-world charm, one which probably never existed in England. Oak beams line the ceiling, flagstones cover the floor, tables are covered in freshly starched gingham.

It's not hard to see why the Japanese appear to find our afternoon tea ceremony more curious than their own. "That's the important thing — we have tea in common," says Miss Cooper. "But this is not just about cream teas. When the tea shop shuts at night in Tokyo I will be teaching ladies how to cook our wonderful cakes, puddings and scones. I will introduce spotted dick and sticky treacle pudding."

Where the British manufacturing industry has failed to open up markets in the Japan, it appears Miss Cooper has succeeded — with chocolate.

KATE ALDERSON

Planning a menu for 14 people? That's serious entertainment, says Janet Daley

We have come a long way from the days when having people round for a meal meant sitting cross-legged on the floor with plates of spaghetti and a bottle of plonk. Just how long, struck me last week. I invited my Radio 4 colleague, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, and his wife to dinner. And then I thought, in a pleasantly vague, Posh-ish sort of way, that it would be nice to ask some friends who followed our programme, *The Moral Maze*, and were fans of his. "Come and meet Hugo," I found myself saying over the phone on quite a few occasions. One thing led to another and before I knew it, we were staging a dinner for 16 people. Now, I am no novice at this. I have produced dinners for six and eight, having graduated fairly painlessly from the student days of spaghetti and chilli to the boeuf bourguignon and chicken nicolise. I have coped with the incorporation of hors d'oeuvres and exotic cheese boards. But making a dinner for sixteen. That, as my features editor said with some awe, is a very grown-up thing to do.

Merrily, one couple dropped out but the numbers were still too great to sit around our table, which lives in a small, book-lined morning room, thus giving our usual dinners a pleasant intimacy, not unlike eating in an alcove at the London Library. This would have to be a buffet, which at least spared me jumping up to clear away each course, and worrying about the timing of the vegetables. There followed quite a few nights of lying in bed and staring at the ceiling: planning menus for 14 being a completely different logistical proposition from the usual three-course project. A casserole large enough to provide the main dish would occupy the whole oven. Thus, everything else needed to be done in advance and frozen. (We are, I should point out, a completely unconstructed household in this department: I do all the cooking while my husband immerses himself in wine labels.)

The entire operation was phased out over a week. The megacasserole was left to cook in the oven overnight. By some miracle (not unconnected to the sticking of large notes on the fridge door) I did not forget to remove the pudding or the aubergine provençal from the freezer the night before. It all went, as they say, according to plan. The house was as close to immaculate as

## Dinner parties for grown-ups



Artful arrangement: but the critical factor is the mix of guests

it ever gets, the flowers were fresh and artfully arranged, the towels in the bathroom respectably fluffy and the meal progressing on time.

But the ingredients which would really determine the success of the evening, of course, were the guests. And it is here where maturity comes into its own. It takes years of

adjustment after those happy years of unconscious youth to realise that the combining of personalities is a subtle business. When we were all argumentative students, it hardly mattered if the evening ended in ideological debate or drunken harangues. In fact, as I recall, that was considered to be much of the point.

Something a bit more civilised is called for these days. What you want, ideally, is a collection of people, each of whom will have at least one thing in common with some of the others but who will not have too much in common with only one other. You do not want two guests locked together in a corner, glaring balefully at the rest of the crowd. Nor do you want a throng who all have one consuming interest — who, for example, all work for the BBC — unless you want the entire party to talk shop all evening. What you need is a web of loose connections: an assemblage of people whose concerns touch upon another in an oblique way. At a buffet meal particularly we wanted scope for a lot of permutations. No one, at least, would have to be imprisoned in a deadly mismatch for the whole event.

As it turned out, we had two artists — one of whom worked for a newspaper — three journalists, one of whom edited an arts journal and who was married to an art historian with a great interest in eastern Europe, which is of passionate concern to Hugo, who is also deeply interested in music, which was the chief concern of another guest — a presenter for Radio 3 — whose wife is a choral singer, as was another wife who had just finished training to be one of the new privatised schools inspectors — which was of interest to almost everybody.

As well, we had a leavening of other generations. Our daughters — a classics undergraduate and a sixth former — plus a young art history research assistant visiting from New York and Hugo's son, who is a painter. Once you get past the stage of having your dinner parties ruined by wretched toddlers, you come to welcome this kind of age mix. There is something horribly unrelieved about gatherings at which everyone is preoccupied by the concerns of one stage of life: childhood illnesses, school fees or, eventually presumably, pension funds.

It was — or so they all said — a lovely evening. At least in one respect, it passed the ultimate test of Grown Up Dinners: everyone seemed to be exchanging telephone numbers at the end. After all those years of going to parties in the hope of making contacts, we have actually reached the stage of giving parties where other people can network.

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The fainting fits suffered by 1,500 Egyptian schoolgirls in the last fortnight are nothing new to physicians

**H**ysteria, which intrigued Pericles and the Greek physicians over 2,000 years ago, still makes the headlines. Hysteria is always news, especially when the cause of the fainting fits which have laid low more than 1,500 Cairo schoolgirls in the past two weeks.

The Greeks thought that hysteria stemmed from the wandering of the womb within the body, a phenomenon which, had it been possible, might well have caused the wide range of symptoms which this disease, technically classified as a neurotic disorder, provokes. The association of hysteria with women still persists — as evidenced by the term "hysterectomy". Hysteria is more common in women than men, and in younger women than older.

The Cairo epidemic of fainting affected only girls — not a single boy swooned — and although not confined to adolescence, the ma-

majority of the patients were around 16; in general, hysteria is more often found in the under-35s.

Hysteria is now defined by international convention. The main characteristic is that the patients are unaware at any conscious level of any motivation to trick or delude those around them, albeit that the symptoms usually do furnish some gain to the sufferer, even if it is only by drawing attention to themselves or by avoiding being left out for some dramatic happening, as in the Cairo fiasco.

Hysteria, being subconscious, is therefore quite different from malingering, which is the deliberate assumption of symptoms, or hypochondriasis, in which patients

become excessively concerned with some aspect of their bodily function, or minor symptom, and its possible relation to serious disease.

Nor does the term hysteria, in medical parlance, describe the noisy emotional scene, the weeping and wailing for instance of a frustrated lover or the uncontrollable rage of people when overwrought.

The Cairo epidemic is little different from other examples of epidemic hysteria, whether found in schools, youth camps or colleges. The incidents usually begin in a small community: in Egypt, it started in a school 75 miles north of Cairo when a girl who was reading aloud suddenly fainted. Psychologists might say that this



DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

pupil could no longer face her task and so subconsciously sought a way out by lapsing into unconsciousness. The other victims, their anxiety increased by their colleague's col-

lapse, were all probably subconsciously reluctant to let other girls receive the attention, and so followed suit.

Doctors divide hysterical symptoms into two groups, conversion phenomena and dissociative phenomena.

In hysterical conversion, the patient's anxieties and tensions are subconsciously channelled into physical phenomena: the patients display symptoms of fits, blindness, deafness, changes in the sensation of taste, inability to talk or walk normally, or sometimes merely unaccountable pain. A good physician dislikes having to make a diagnosis by exclusion, but in hysterical cases, the absence of any physical signs of disease is

usually the clue to the cause of the trouble.

The unfortunate Dr Ahmed Rashid, who took charge of the Cairo outbreak, said: "We have tried every clinical test available but nothing has shown up."

The girls complained of a change in taste, a common hysterical complaint. In other cases of conversion hysteria, a patient will suffer hysterical deafness or blindness and this state will occasionally persist for years until a sudden "miracle cure" follows the sudden reappearance of a long lost friend, for instance, or the sound of a new baby crying.

In dissociative hysteria, amnesia, the loss of memory, is the most common symptom. When this is

accompanied by a wandering away from the usual environment, it is called a hysterical fugue. Both are devices utilised by the sub-conscious to resolve seemingly impossible conflicts, whether in the patient's social, professional or marital background.

It is easy for doctors to succumb to temptation to describe as hysterical patients whose failure to get better annoys them. Hysteria can occasionally be a symptom of brain disease, including cerebral tumours, dementias or temporal lobe epilepsy, or there may be physical reasons for unexplained pain, loss of sight or hearing.

We no longer attribute hysteria, as those in the Middle Ages did, to possession by the devil, nor do we think, like the Greeks or Victorians, that it has a physical cause, but it remains an occasional wonder to newspaper readers, and a constant diagnostic pitfall for doctors.

## Will power or pill power

A drug that allows you to eat what you like may help the seriously obese to lose weight without going hungry, writes Aileen Ballantyne

**T**hroughout Britain today — while millions of potentially slim people are deeply regretting eating that forbidden chocolate Easter egg — nearly 200 seriously overweight dieters are indulging in every food lover's dream.

At six secret locations, these chosen few are trying out a promising new drug which, doctors hope, will greatly reduce the amount of fat — and calories — which we absorb from our food.

The drug is something that the health-conscious gourmet has sought for years: a pain-free pill that allows us to stay slim for life while eating what we like.

For the 50 per cent of British men and women aged over 40 who now have some sort of weight problem it sounds too good to be true. It isn't. At least not yet.

The drug, THL, or tetrahydrolipstatin, is the first diet pill of its kind, and is regarded by leading nutritionists as the most interesting new approach around. Existing diet pills work by attempting to regulate the rate at which the body burns energy or by suppressing appetite. THL actually appears to prevent absorption of a significant amount of the fat we eat.

Although clinical trials in Britain only started a few months ago, earlier trials in other countries have shown good results and the drug, manufactured by Roche, is expected to be available in about five years' time, on prescription only, for people with extremely serious weight problems. A spokesman for the company said he did not wish to reveal the names of the six trial centres in Britain

because so many people were likely to volunteer.

There is, however, a catch in this potential drug. You may well lose weight, but whether or not it is good for your health to do it this way is another matter.

THL is not sufficiently "intelligent" to tell the difference between the animal and dairy fats that are bad for us, and the unsaturated vegetable oils which may be beneficial to our health. Also, doctors are watching patients on the trial carefully to ensure that the drug does not also prevent the body from absorbing vital fat-soluble vitamins, such as vitamin E, which is thought to protect against heart disease.

If it does, THL will consign the seriously overweight to the drug manufacturers' dream: polypharmacy, a future of popping not just one set of pills daily, but at least two, with the second pill only becoming necessary because you are taking the first.

But, in spite of the problems, THL's experimental use by some of the world's leading nutritionists marks an important shift in the medical approach to losing weight. Many experts now accept that losing weight is not just a matter of "disciplining yourself to eat less". Once extra weight has been put on, retraining our brain to accept less food may be far more difficult than previously thought.

Among those involved in trials of the new drug is Professor Philip James, a leading government adviser on diet and health, and director of one of the world's leading independent nutrition research centres, the Rowett Institute, in Aberdeen. "Some people would be appalled to

hear me say this, but I think it is probably one of the most interesting approaches we have yet. All the evidence suggests that it is the fat in our diets that is particularly conducive to making us overweight."

In the last decade, the number of medically obese women in the United Kingdom — that is, those who are more than two stone too heavy for their height and build — has increased by 50 per cent, to 12 per cent of the population. For men, the increase in obesity is also significant, from 6 per cent to 8 per cent.

As a result of such increases, it looks as if the experts are willing to admit that their previous advice, for many people, simply does not work. Professor James is one of a number of leading nutritionists who are urging the government to adopt and fund an entirely different approach to all weight control as part of its "Health of the Nation" goals, which aim to cut the incidence of life-threatening obesity-linked diseases, such as strokes and heart disease.

The good news about this approach — which is for all overweight people, not just the small number who are sufficiently obese to require treatment with drugs — is that we can all forget calorie counting forever.

**A**fter attending a planning meeting with senior health department officials last week, Professor James said: "Calorie counting has never been shown to be an effective way to lose weight. The difficulty is not so much in actually counting the calories, but complying with a calorie-counting diet."



Turning your back on fat: a drug which controls the fat that the body absorbs, could make obesity and crash diets a thing of the past

The response of many people to the traditional "weight loss" diet of around 1,200 calories a day is hunger, followed by failure and guilt. But we should not feel guilty: our reactions to what our brain perceives as starvation are perfectly understandable.

The hunger response is thought to be part of the healthy brain's mechanism to ensure our survival. Useful in the Stone Age, when we had to hunt for food or die, this mechanism, for most of us, is now something of a nuisance.

It means that as we put on weight over the years by continuing our modern lifestyle with its high-fat diet and minimal exercise, our whole body seems to become "re-gear" so that the brain appears to send out messages to keep our body at that given level of fat.

That is why, many experts

now believe, excessively strict regimes simply do not work. It is not because overweight people are somehow lacking in discipline.

Indeed, studies of people of normal weight who were put on 1,200-calorie-a-day diets show that they, too, develop a psychological obsession with food.

"Doctors throughout the world have been castigating overweight people as 'lacking in commitment' for years," Professor James says. "But people who go on crash diets really should not think they are hopeless when they find they are desperately hungry."

"We have now found that if we try putting people who have never had a weight problem in their lives on 1,200 calories a day, they, too, start having dreams about cream cakes."

### THE NEW APPROACH TO WEIGHT LOSS BEING RECOMMENDED TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The new approach to weight loss being recommended to the health department, now operating in pilot schemes at three centres in Britain, involves inducing an "energy deficit" sufficient to lose about one pound every week. This is done by writing down what you eat and drink on an average day. The findings are analysed by an expert, who suggests what you could cut out from that diet without getting hungry, and what you could add, in the form of calorie-burning lifestyle changes, to make up a total energy deficit of around 500 calories a day.

If you eat, for example, a bag of crisps and one small chocolate biscuit a day, it would be suggested that you should cut these out. Replacing your daily half-pint of whole milk with semi-skimmed and switching from sweetened cereal to a high-fibre, unsweetened brand will take care of around 350 calories, with another 150 being burned up by adding two half-hours of brisk walking to your routine. But there is one further essential in this new, kinder form of dieting, Professor James stresses: "You've got to be honest with yourself."

## Taking a chance when in a trance

After the 'hypnotherapist' indecent assault case, does the profession need to introduce stricter controls?



Look into my eyes: the cast of the film, *Heart of Glass*, underwent hypnosis

**I**t did nothing to dispel the image of hypnosis as a dark, intimidating and dark force when Werner Herzog, the German film director, felt it necessary to have the entire cast of his film, *Heart of Glass*, hypnotised to achieve a convincing portrayal of hallucination and madness.

Seventeen years later, those who use hypnosis as a form of psychotherapy are still struggling to gain credibility, hindered further by allegations last week that an Essex "hypnotherapist" had sexually assaulted up to 40 women while they were in a trance-like state.

For many years, newspaper reports have told of charlatans using hypnotherapy as a vehicle to manipulate people. Yet despite this, increasing numbers of people have been turning to hypnotherapy recently in an attempt to find a cure for anxiety, obesity, smoking and other ailments.

Genuine hypnotherapists — those who have a medical background and have trained for many years — are now worried that the case in Essex will set the profession back years. Part of the blame, however, must land at their door. Anyone can practise hypnotherapy, without supervision or qualification. There are few training courses available and no licensing system, or regulatory body, in Britain, or there are about 70 different hypnotherapy organisations, hypnotherapy organisations, and about 1,300 doctors and dentists who are trained as hypnotherapists, but most exist as independent practitioners.

Hypnotherapy is not recognised by the National Health Service, leaving hypnotherapists open to the charge that their trade is merely a profit-making operation. Prices can be up to £100 per session.

There are two major problems immediately facing those who believe hypnotherapy has a credible therapeutic future. First, the profession must dissociate itself from hypnosis as entertainment. Hypnotists, such as Paul McKenna, emphasise its mystical powers, using it as a vehicle for theatre

and comedy. On stage, their volunteer victims have no control, no power: they are totally in the hypnotist's hands.

A friend of mine, a hardened cynic and self-confessed hypnotic doubter, was reduced to licking the carpet in a pub after a hypnotist told him he was a sheep. He could remember nothing of the experience but could not understand why his mouth was full of fluff.

Second, hypnotherapists have yet to provide a large enough body of evidence to support claims that it is an effective form of therapy.

Dr Louis Appleby, a senior lecturer in psychiatry at the University of Manchester, remains a sceptic. "There is evidence that it can be useful to treat certain conditions which are anxiety based, but in other areas there have been no trials to prove its use. Some hypnotherapists are undoubtedly genuine and it's not surprising that they are becoming increasingly popular."

The experiences of Louise, a personnel manager from Nottingham, serve as a warning: "I picked out a therapist from the Yellow Pages and asked on

the telephone if the man was qualified. He said 'Yes', and I thought nothing more of it.

"When I arrived at the address, it was nothing more than a converted front room with a dodgy-looking couch, but there were certificates on the wall which made him look authentic. I was desperate to lose weight and was prepared to try anything. I was a bit scared. I was alone in this room with a strange man. He told me I'd go into a trance when he said certain words and after a while I felt sleepy. He kept touching my arm and breathing heavily in my ear. After a while, I panicked and ran out of the room. I never went back, but the experience cost me £45."

That thousands of people, the majority of whom are women, are willing to surrender their bodies and minds to complete strangers, be it only for an hour a week, is a worrying trend. As Dr Appleby says, it seems illogical that people with psychiatric problems are turning to a therapy which may render them semi-conscious, leaving them unaware of the method used to gain access to the root of their problems.

While there remains little doubt that hypnotherapy has helped some people recover from stress-related disorders, it now has an uphill task in trying to distance itself from a reputation as a profession that can make people appear as fools or victims.

KATE ALDERSON

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## Lynne Truss



## Is there anybody out there naive enough not to spot the PR?

In about 1970 I saw a stage-play called *The Happy Apple*, and for some reason it has always stuck in my mind. Written by Jack Pulman at a time when the art of advertising was an exciting new subject with comic capabilities, its main character was a young temp secretary who, by some extraordinary freak of nature, possessed attitudes and preferences that were an exact, uncanny reflection of those of the general public. Say the word "Apple" to her, you see, and she replied "Happy" (hence the title). Fortunately she worked in the offices of a small-time advertising agency, so this natural talent, once discovered, was put to good commercial use as a secret weapon. No need for market research! Those slogan-boys had it made. No longer did they waste time with clipboards on street corners; instead they merely quizzed the temp, breezed ahead of their baffled rivals, and started putting their feet up in the afternoon.

I am often reminded of this little moral fable — and not only because I have spent 23 bewildered years sadly unconvinced about the connection between Apple and Happy. The play was evidently written at a time when there was a public — when there was concern about the ethics of advertising, and it was a bit shocking to realise that common attitudes were being scientifically located, analysed and exploited for the sake of selling something. In 1993, of course (thanks perhaps to the wild proliferation of sociology courses in the intervening years), we are in a rather different position, because the modern Miss Average knows all about PR, but assumes, with a shrug, that the "P" must refer to someone else. Arguably, however, it does not exist at all. If the 1980s famously taught us that there is no such thing as society (only men, women and families), so equally there is now no such thing as the public, only wised-up critics of PR who demand a bloody good show.

On whose behalf do they demand it, though? That's what I don't understand. Take any public relations exercise — a politician, say, visiting a hospital in the run-up to an election — and examine the impact of this on the average person. Does anybody, anywhere think, "Well, that's nice of him, to pop in, especially when he's so busy trying to get returned"? Of course not. Instead, the hydra-headed judging panel in every home, bus and chip-shop awards a range of marks from 5.0 to 5.9 for PR-effectiveness, and then settles back to assess the next offering. And the crowning madness is that we don't despise people who are good at PR; we despise the people who are failures at it.

As a case in point, last Friday the *Daily Mail* printed a feature on the relative PR successes of the Prince and Princess of Wales since they went their separate ways. Three months' worth of fascinating statistics were totted up and averaged out — how many people turned up for each event, how many reporters and television crews, and how many ladders were brought along by photographers — as well as marks out of ten for presentation. Really. Transfixed by these simple graphs and figures, I was of course hugely delighted to find that the princess had emerged the clear winner (well done, Diana!) until I suddenly realised how mad and scary it all was. For goodness' sake, had I really been judging these people by their ability to attract ladders?

If *The Happy Apple* were written now, it would be obliged to take a very different line, possibly adapted from Hans Christian Andersen. An emperor, on expert advice, deliberately strips to his underwear and parades about in front of his subjects, who wave and cheer because it proves he's got his finger on the pulse and knows how to please the public (meaning somebody else, less clever, peculiarly invisible). "Look at the lovely ladders, my liege!" hiss the uncouth advisers. "Listen to the cheering!" And then this little voice pipes up. "But nobody is actually watching, surely. The public is a myth, and we have all been duped by con-men." At which profound home truth everyone melts away from the scene, and stops pretending to be stupid, and the emperor puts his clothes on, and they all live happily (or even apple-y) ever after.

All responsible parties in South Africa accept their duty is still to negotiate, says R.W. Johnson

## Avenge Hani's death by peaceful transition

On the walls of the university where I work, black student activists, filled with rage at the assassination of Chris Hani, have spray-painted the slogans, "No peace without Hani" and "To war, comrades, to war". There is no doubt that such sentiments are quite widely shared by young blacks in the townships, but there seems little likelihood that such reactions will stop or even delay the progress of the multi-party talks which reopened in Johannesburg just before Easter. On the contrary, and despite dissent further down the movement's hierarchy, the ANC leaders have been unanimous and emphatic in their assertion that the process of constitutional negotiation must continue.

ANC leaders have no doubt been badly shaken to see how easily even the most prominent of their comrades could be gunned down — although some hard questions need to be asked about why Hani's ANC bodyguard arrived on the scene several hours too late. Perhaps it is even more significant that the breakdown in talks last year plunged the country into months of violent mayhem. Looking back at that, it is easy to see that this was extremely expensive in human lives, and that nine months were lost to negotiation without much corresponding gain. The ANC cannot afford this to happen again, certainly not if it wishes to stick to the timetable agreed with President de Klerk for elections by April 1994, nor indeed if it wishes to retain the sympathy of an international community grown weary of such delays. In any case, the ANC leaders know that

negotiation is the only political game in town. A relapse into bitterness and communal reprisals would mean a descent into mere racial feuding, rendering politicians proper almost redundant. Nonetheless, Hani's death will not make the cause of compromise and mutual accommodation any easier to achieve — although that is just what is required. The logjam last year came over two issues: majority rule versus power-sharing and a centralised unitary state versus federalism, on both of which the government was able to block the ANC, thanks to a wide coalition of support, ranging from the liberal Democratic Party and Mangosuthu Buthe's Inkatha Freedom Party to a number of minor parties frightened of majority rule, and to the black homeland which are now too accustomed to a large devolution of power to stomach a return to centralised rule.

The breakdown of talks last year left the country in a state of violence and drift, from which it was only rescued, following the Biko massacre, by the energetic action of the Western powers, which shored up the government and the ANC into a series of bilateral deals,

including an agreement on power-sharing. The other parties, thoroughly alarmed by this bilateralism, have come crowding back to the table in almost unmanageable numbers. Not only has the white far right broken its boycott of the talks, as has the extremist Pan-Africanist Congress, but all manner of fresh minor players are bidding for representation, carrying the total of participants up from Codesa's 19 to 26 now. The only thing most of the minnows have in common is a furious rejection of the idea that the future can be dictated by cosy deals between President de Klerk's National Party and the ANC.

In practice, however, it seems clear that this is exactly what there will be. There were always two models for negotiation: a duopoly of the National Party and the ANC or an all-party arrangement. The former would be undemocratic but convenient, reserving all the jobs and patronage for the two major players; the latter would be more democratic but would quickly collapse like the Tower of Babel. What is happening now is a mixture of models: a Tower of Babel conference lasting only a day has been followed by private

conferences, in which the minor parties are being forced to accept a consensus already worked out secretly by the National Party and the ANC. If all goes according to plan, a transitional executive will replace the present government in a few months' time, and similar power-sharing arrangements will be slotted into place with regard to the army, police, media, and regional and city government, to provide an equal start for democratic elections.

There are two large problems. First, the question of federalism remains unresolved. The ANC talks loudly about its willingness to concede regional government, but its centralising, Jacobin instincts are still well in evidence. In effect the ANC hopes that it has brought the government onto its side by conceding power-sharing, and that this will do the balance against the unholy alliance of Chief Buthe's, other homeland leaders and the far right. But the National Party is deeply split over federalism, so much so that the talks could still break down over this crucial issue.

Secondly, the process is threatened by the possibility of social breakdown, which now threatens on every side. The

murder rate here is ten times that of the United States (and 95 times that of Britain); unemployment, already mountainous, continues to pile up; black education has virtually collapsed, and black activists are now planning to invade and occupy white schools, which is just the sort of campaign that could precipitate the descent into inter-communal reprisals and counter-reprisals which now constantly threatens. Such dangers bring white anxiety to near hysteria, producing further emigration by much-needed professionals. The cycle of economic decline producing more violence which then leads to further decline is all too apparent.

The chances are that politicians will walk to the edge of this precipice — but not over it. Hani's assassination has demonstrated just how close to that edge we are already. In the end a deal will be done, and ultimately there will probably be a deal on federalism. The way will then be clear for a more representative and legitimate government to stamp its authority on the country by strong measures against crime and political extremism of every brand. This, at least, is what the Western powers and a probable majority of all races here now want. The idea of the first democratic government declaring a state of emergency and using its popular authority to wield an iron fist is not what the liberation movement was supposed to be all about. But South Africa now hovers so close to a Hobbesian state of nature that such an outcome might be not merely necessary but popular.

## Stalin's authorised massacre

History will not believe that men of our century could organise mass murder in cold blood as the Russians did at Katyn

As I write this, eight sheets of paper, A4 size, lie on my desk; there is typescript on all of them. Four are in English, four in Russian; half of them consist of a translation of the other half. But the Russian is a photocopy of its original, and that is why I have been sitting here — I am at home alone and it is getting on for midnight — for the best part of an hour, trying to shake off my conviction that if I start writing on the subject, with those Russian words before me, the evil in the story I am to recount will stain my hands for ever.

The Russian typescript photocopies are clear. Even the date, scribbled in the top right corner with a very thin pencil, is perfectly legible. That date was to go down in history, and very terrible history, too: it is March 3, 1940. Right across the first Russian page there are four names written in a much thicker pencil. It does not take much imagination to work out that the four names added are significant: an agreed statement. I do not speak or read Russian, but I can make out most of the characters, and I can certainly decipher the first name; as I realise whose name it is, I swear that the room becomes colder. For I already know, from the translation, what the document contains.

More than a touch of the melodramatic, would you say? But it is difficult to remain prosaic when the subject is the cold-blooded murder of 25,421 innocent men. For the Russian text consists of a memorandum from Lavrenti Beria to Stalin, and these historic pages consist of the advice given by Beria and taken by Stalin, the advice that led directly to the Katyn massacre.

The niceties are observed: below Stalin's name are those of Voroshilov, Molotov and Mikoyan; in the margin, the clerk who kept the minutes has neatly added, to demonstrate that there were no omissions, two more names: Comrades Kallinin (for) and Kaganovich (for).

I have an uneasy feeling that some of my younger readers do not know what the Katyn massacre was, so I had better explain. When Hitler launched his invasion of Poland (so precipitating the declaration of war on him by Britain and France), Stalin invaded Poland from the east, and Poland was once

more partitioned. But in the fighting, large numbers of Polish soldiers and others, including non-combatants, were captured and taken to prisoner-of-war camps. Hear Beria as he describes them:

In the... camps for the prisoners of war... there is at this time a large number of former Officers of the Polish Army, former members of the Polish Police and of Intelligence Services, members of National (counter-revolutionary) Organisations, turncoats and others. They are all sworn enemies of the Soviet Authorities, full of hatred of the Soviet system. Prisoners of war, Officers and Policemen held in the camps, are trying to continue their counter-revolutionary activity and are agitating anti-Soviet propaganda. Every one of them is waiting to be released in order to have the opportunity for active participation in the struggle against the Soviet regime.

There were two main groups of camps in which the Poles were held: the numbers were meticulously noted. Thus, there were 295 generals, colonels and lieutenant-colonels, 2,080 majors and captains, 6,049 lieutenants, second lieutenants and ensigns, and so on, including "bureaucrats, landowners, priests, spies and saboteurs [347 of them], manufacturers and turncoats".

What to do with them? Beria was not at a loss. "Assuming that all of them are hardened, non-rehabilitable, enemies of the Soviet regime... the application of highest capital punishment — death by shooting... without summoning those arrested and without apprising them of the charges or of the decision."

And Katyn was the place to which the Poles were taken, shot and — in mass graves — buried. Time passed; Hitler ceased to be Stalin's comrade (did you know that the leaders of the British Communist party, before the Nazis attacked Russia, forbade the members to criticise Hitler?), and indeed launched war upon him. The area of Katyn was fought over more than once, as the battle swung this way and that. But it was the German army which found Katyn and its terrible secret, and the Germans who announced, quite correctly, that it was a Soviet atrocity.

This would not do; our gallant ally, Stalin, could not be painted as a mass murderer, and the charge was denied and turned back upon the Germans.



Unforgotten: the Warsaw memorial to the communists' victims

That was, as it happens, a reasonable action. The war was still raging, the Russians were our allies, however ironically, and this was no time for the truth.

But the war ended, and as the truth raised its head, the evidence began to pile up: the majestic little book *The Dark Side of the Moon* (T.S. Eliot was responsible for getting it published) described the horrors visited upon the Poles by the Soviet Union, and inevitably the Katyn massacre began to sink to Heaven.

The British Foreign Office had had sufficient evidence of the truth since 1943, and possessed conclusive proof by 1952. But the traitors there (what, you thought Philby, Burgess and Maclean

were the only ones, you dear sweet innocents?) sat tight, and as decade followed decade, and the baton was handed on, the story and the mendacity marched shoulder to shoulder, saying every time: there is insufficient evidence to decide the matter.

True, 25,421 murders are nothing when put beside Stalin's hecatombs, which ran into many millions, but somehow this crime stands out from the rest: it was so cold-blooded and so wicked, and so ghastly were the words used to order the massacre. Some time ago I told in detail the infinitely shameful story of how both Tory and Labour governments, together with the Church of England, conspired to stifle the truth.

and to prevent any commemoration of the 25,421 Poles slaughtered by the communists. To that end, when a memorial obelisk was erected, the Minister of Defence forbade any officer of the British forces to go to the ceremony, on pain of court martial, and every year on the day of commemoration the ban was renewed, until Margaret Thatcher became prime minister and sent the minister annually to the ceremony. Then, when Gorbachev admitted the truth, claiming that he had just discovered it (he had known it since 1970), the Foreign Office told its most monstrous, final lie, in these words: "We have long called for everyone to be open about this incident. We therefore now welcome the revelations from Moscow." (Yes, they did call the slaughter of 25,421 innocent men "this incident".)

Do you wonder, then, that in the silence of my study and the calm of midnight, I feared that if the silence and the calm were broken the dead would rise, demanding justice, and wake God with their cries of pain? But is there justice beyond the grave? Surely there must be; if there is none, then the universe can have no meaning, and if it has none, what are we all doing here, alive or dead? Frightened by my question and my fear of the answer, I turn back to the Russian text, and I shiver again, when I see those names scribbled across the death-warrant, and the words of it: "...without summoning those arrested and without apprising them of the charges or of the decision..."

The document is marked "STRICTLY SECRET"; Beria's memorandum was, of course, directed to Stalin. There is no time indication, but the discussion cannot have taken long. The murders followed hard upon.

What will history say of this story? I don't mean now, or the immediate future. I mean centuries from now, when the world is utterly changed, and when murder is an ancient word to be found only in historical dictionaries, where it will be marked "obsolete". If some dusty scholar finds the records of this true story in some even dustier archive, will he believe it? Surely he will not. How could human beings do such things?

All too easily. Not many in the West come out of this story well; I have indicated a few who come out of it particularly badly. There is an organisation called the Friends of Katyn; its purpose is to help the Poles in their never-ending struggle. I am proud to be a member, *honoris causa*, of the band; the certificate of membership has an honoured place on the wall of my study. In the silence, I looked at it again, and thought of the story it told; then at last I could sit down and write what you have just read. But more than once I had to pause and dab my eyes.

## Look in the in-tray

EVERY prime minister, as Margaret Thatcher once said, needs a Willie. John Major takes note. Having upset yet more of his own MPs by agreeing to meet Salman Rushdie, some of his senior backbenchers are calling for the return of a steady hand on the tiller at No 10. They want an unofficial "deputy prime minister".

Lord Howe, the former foreign secretary, is being touted as the sort of Willie Whitelaw figure who should be casting an eye over proceedings. Someone of his experience would quickly bring an end, they argue, to the lacklustre impression of a government ruled by its in-tray.

An elder statesman would also curb the growing influence of John Major's policy unit, a body which is causing alarm in Whitehall due to its "misguided and meddling" attitude. One senior Whitehall figure complains that the unit, run by Sarah Hogg, a former economics editor of *The Times*, is the cause many of the govern-

ment's problems. "It is too powerful. It jumps in with both feet at a very late stage and demands changes which aren't always for the best."

MPs are equally concerned: "There's no one tough enough in Number Ten to keep an eye on it," said one Tory loyalist. "Sarah Hogg is way over her head and the whole thing is very boy-scoutish."

Hogg is being blamed for Major's planned meeting with Rushdie. Tellingly, the prime minister agreed to see the author of *The Satanic Verses* only two days after Rushdie spoke to Sarah Hogg's husband Douglas, the junior foreign minister.

## More of Morgan

IS THERE no end to the vein of E.M. Forster gold? King's College, Cambridge and André Deutsch now plan to publish the diaries of the author of *Howards End*. The question is whether they are likely to include material concerning his first love affair, in 1918, with an 18-year-old Egypt-

ian boy, Mohammed el Adl. Nicola Beauman, whose biography of Forster, *Morgan*, is to be published next month, is beside herself with excitement. The intimate details of Forster's love and his grief over the boy's death are held in the so-called "locked journal", a stout notebook with a brass lock. "And if these are to be published it will be very exciting. Until now the journal has been embargoed because of less-than-flattering remarks Forster made about people still living," she says.

● *Secrecy can go only so far.* A masonic lodge in Maesteg, mid-Glamorgan, has been



## DIARY

closed down on the orders of the Grand Lodge of England. Why? Because the grand lodge could not understand what was happening in the Maesteg ceremonies — they were conducted in Welsh.

## Campaign rotor

IT MAY be hard to imagine Robert Maxwell in a cloth cap, but apparently this is what the portly businessman wore to woo the working class and further his political ambitions. Evidence that he donned workman's clothes to press the flesh of voters on the doorstep in Buckingham in 1964 comes in the 80th anniversary issue of the *New Statesman & Society*. The magazine reproduces an article on Maxwell's victorious campaign strategy, and remarks on his familiar approach: "He dropped the

Captain, changed Robert to Bob, and adopted a cloth cap."

To boost the image he also dressed up a slogan of dubious poetic merit: "Let Harold and Bob finish the job." This he barked from a megaphone on street corners. His victory clincher, though, must surely have been the ultimate concession to socialism: red paint all over his helicopter.

## Or was he pushed?

CONFINED to the backbenches and with time on his side, Kenneth Baker has realised a long-held ambition by publishing a work he began in 1980 to put the case for Conservatives. But can one detect an editorial sleight of hand? *The Faber Book of Conservatism*, which he has edited, draws on the writings of Burke, Peel and Disraeli; it

contains poems by Chaucer, Kipling and Yeats. In its way, the book presents a compelling case. What a pity, then, that Baker appears to have marred its credibility with blurb on the dustjacket, which asserts that he "decided to leave the government after the 1992 election".

Most observers would argue that the former Home Secretary was not the one who did the deciding. He was offered the obscenity of Secretary of State for Wales, but felt it wasn't enough for someone who had been at the forefront of government policy. After all, this was the man who pioneered the poll tax, introduced the much-maligned dangerous dogs bill, as well as testing for primary schoolchildren. No other offers were forthcoming — so he quit.

● *A long shot for would-be socialist millionaires?* Labour Briefing, the cash-strapped organ for the extreme left, is offering its readers the chance to invest in "Briefing Beaver Bonds" to help support the newspaper. They pay an impressive 15 per cent interest — redeemable "24 hours after the revolution".

## A new kind of boot sale



Elton John's platform boots have been joined by something a little more princely for an event to be held next week in aid of Tibetan refugees. The Duke of Gloucester, architect and cousin of the Prince of Wales, has donated a "mystery gift" to be auctioned. Though happy to discuss Elton's boots or the garish tie from *Famly Towers* donated by John Cleese, the organisers are coy about the Duke's offering. "Yes, he has given us

something but we really cannot disclose what. We aren't even going to say in the catalogue where it came from," said Titus Mills, the teacher who is holding the event on Saturday. Clues, for those after a royal memento from the sale of 350 or so items, are few and far between. You can be sure, however, that the lot comprising a compact disc signed by Cliff Richard and an accompanying letter is not from Kensington Palace.





# FEDERALIST FAULT LINES

The ERM's failure holds valuable lessons

This morning the committee of European finance ministers meets in Brussels to put the finishing touches to its report on the alleged "fault lines" in the exchange-rate mechanism, commissioned after Black Wednesday. They could save themselves a lot of trouble and Europe further economic damage by throwing out the technical treatise drafted by their civil servants and submitting instead a brief analysis along the following lines.

There are no technical fault-lines in the ERM. The mechanism has worked exactly as it should have. It has allowed the theory of the 1989 Delors Plan — that Europe was ready and willing to move to a full monetary union before the end of the century — to be submitted to an objective, empirical test against economic reality. The Delors theory has been falsified by the experiment's results in the best scientific manner. The Maastricht programme to create a monetary union should therefore be abandoned forthwith, while the ERM should either be abolished or should encourage frequent readjustments, as it did before 1987.

Continental Europe is now in its deepest recession for three decades and may even be on the verge of a British-style slump. Britain, meanwhile, is enjoying a clear economic recovery, within six months of leaving the ERM. Britain's short-term interest rates are far below Germany's and its long-term rates are lower than they were when the pound was in the ERM. Governments are falling from Copenhagen and Brussels to Paris and Rome. The ideal of European unity now commands less popular support than for decades. The Single European Market, the EC's greatest achievement since the Treaty of Rome, has been jeopardised by the ERM from its very first moments. The "1992 programme" is now associated with unemployment, financial chaos and inter-governmental economic strife.

The ERM has also imperilled European enlargement. By hobbling the economies of the EC, it has done great damage to eastern

Europe. In Scandinavia, including Denmark, the ERM has turned opinion against the whole European project by identifying Europe with high interest rates, soaring unemployment and economic collapse.

Finally, the fixed exchange rate experiment has failed to achieve its geopolitical objective: to create a currency-based economic bloc to compete against America and Japan on "equal terms". European industries that should have been benefiting from German unification and the 1992 programme have instead been devastated by recession. Instead of taking advantage of the opportunities created by the single market to create pan-European businesses that can match the best in the world in terms of quality and costs, the ERM is encouraging European businesses and exporters to seek refuge behind protectionist barriers.

All of this damage has been done not by the ERM itself, but by the political attempt to turn it into a system of exchange-rates. To prevent currency fluctuations among sovereign countries with differing domestic economic requirements will inevitably produce damaging results. Germany, for example, wants high interest rates and a strong mark to curb inflation. But France needs a weak franc, at a time when its biggest export industries are threatened with the reduction of government support.

Such divergences are not merely a one-off consequence of German unification. As long as Europe consists of separate countries, with different governments, political traditions, national skills and economic structures, disruptive events like German unification will happen again and again. If Europe ever decides to become a single federal state, with a strong central government and a uniform society as homogeneous as the one in America, there will be a strong argument for a single currency or a monetary union. Until then, attempts to create a federal Europe by the monetary back door will continue to wreak economic havoc. That is the one clear lesson from the ERM.

# OPEN PRISONS

Privatised prison services must become more accountable

Less than six months since Derek Lewis took office as director-general of the prison service, the future involvement of the private sector in the criminal justice system is already in doubt. No fewer than four prisoners have escaped during the first week of the private security firm Group 4's five-year contract to run the prison escort service in the East Midlands and Humberside, while the Prison Reform Trust has reported an unusually high incidence of assaults at Britain's first privatised jail, the Wolds Remand Prison near Hull — also run by Group 4. It is hard to imagine a less auspicious start.

Unsettling as these episodes are, the prison privatisation programme remains an essentially sound undertaking. The plans put forward by Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, for Britain's 128 jails have been caricatured by opponents as an arbitrary self-off. In fact, Mr Clarke is merely proposing to contract out services hitherto provided by a highly inefficient monopoly.

In spite of countless modernisation schemes, the prison service is still over-centralised, poorly managed and abjectly dependent upon the good will of the Prison Officers' Association: it badly needs the shock of competition. The goal for ministers must be a healthy mixed economy in which public and private sectors complement one another and the quality of the service offered is the single criterion used to award contracts.

Where the state is best qualified to run a

prison or an escort service, it should continue to do so; elsewhere, private bids ought to be favourably considered. In return, the public requires iron-clad guarantees that businesses will meet the standards expected of those engaged in a highly sensitive public service. Privately-run prisons will therefore be visited by Judge Tugendhat's inspectorate and overseen on site by government officials.

Nonetheless, the details of the agreements between the state and contractors are to be shrouded in mystery, on the dubious grounds of "commercial confidentiality". Although Group 4's prison escort contract costs the taxpayer £9.5 million a year, the penalties for incompetence which are included in the agreement remain secret. Parliament will not be told what procedures are used to review contracts or even the staffing levels of firms who are hired by the prison service. The lessons of last week's farcical escapes will be a matter for the board-room, but not, it seems, for the public domain.

Mr Clarke must correct this anomaly as a matter of urgency. If prison privatisation is to proceed, Parliament must be able to monitor its progress and question the home secretary in detail on the relative performance of private and state-run jails. The public should not be denied information about punishment administered in its name, any more than private security firms should be shielded from necessary scrutiny simply to protect their commercial interests. Having made so much of its faith in accountability and openness, the government must now live by its own rhetoric.

# CRACKS IN THE GREAT WALL

The divide between literature and science should be bridged

In the technocratic era, the gulf between literature and science has grown as wide as the divide between sacred and profane ever was in ancient times. In British society, the "two cultures" identified by C.P. Snow remain firmly segregated and few writers or scientists venture across the intellectual no-man's land that divides the library from the laboratory. Those that do, such as Tom Stoppard, whose new play *Arcadia* opens tonight in London, deserve a special kind of laurel.

In an interview on the Arts pages of *The Times* today, Mr Stoppard argues that the play's complex exploration of chaos theory, entropy and thermodynamics — in the unlikely setting of 19th-century Derbyshire — is part of its claim to authenticity. Audiences reared on Wilde, Shaw and the wit of Noel Coward may be baffled by such technicalities. But they may also be provoked to explore the scientific labyrinth further.

Leonardo and Michelangelo knew that art and science should not be separated and the hemispheres of the brain. Yet from the scientific revolution of the 17th and 18th centuries emerged a fatal polarity between the two cultures which has tarnished the intellectual wall ever since. In 1802, learning and education ever since. Cole-Charles Lamb wrote despairingly to poetry, ridge that "Science has succeeded to poetry, no less in the little walks of children than in the great ones of men. Is there no possibility of averting this sore evil?" His words still resound bitterly in every classroom where children are forced to choose between the "arts" and the "sciences".

In the last decade, cosmetic fascination with science has become a favourite dinner party game and untouched copies of Stephen Hawking's *A Brief History of Time* grace many coffee tables. Yet the growing interest of writers in scientific concepts should not be judged by their less discerning (non-)readers but by the noble tradition of cross-fertilisation in which they stand.

Just as Shakespeare and Spenser were intrigued by the quasi-scientific mysteries of hermeticism, so Arthur Koestler called in 1959 for a reunion of the creative arts and science in his majestic work *The Sleepwalkers*. More recently, modern writers such as Martin Amis, William Boyd and Ian McEwan have discovered a rich literary seam in the so-called "new science". In the last half century, the old-fashioned Newtonian physics which depicted the universe as a vast machine has given way to a new paradigm in which sub-atomic particles pop in and out of existence, events are affected by the very act of perception and chains of cause and effect defy predictability. Physics may indeed be as mystical as human emotion.

Not surprisingly, writers have rushed to claim this unfamiliar terrain as their own, sparring with scientists in a battle of creative interpretation. On the other side of the great intellectual wall, scientists such as the neurologist Oliver Sacks and the zoologist Richard Dawkins have shown that works of literature, as scientific and literary genres grow less and less distinct. The "two cultures" observed by Snow may still be separate, but

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Time for Russia to leave Baltic states

From the Ambassador of Latvia and the Ambassador of Estonia

Sir, In your report of April 5 (later editions) on the US aid package to Russia you quote President Yeltsin's reference to troop withdrawals from Estonia and Latvia as being "determined by those countries' respect for the rights of their Russian minorities".

At the request of Estonia and Latvia, numerous delegations from the Council of Europe, the CSCE (Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe) and the UN have visited both countries during the past year. These delegations have issued reports which conclude that Estonia and Latvia comply with human rights norms.

Given that the rights of Russians and all other ethnic groups are fully respected in Estonia and Latvia, there is no reason why Russia should not agree to withdraw her troops from our countries, using the same schedule agreed with Lithuania — i.e. by September 1, 1993.

We are grateful that President Clinton has pledged \$6 million in aid for housing, to be directed at the removal of foreign troops from the Baltic. However, President Clinton and his western allies must firmly reject President Yeltsin's linkage of troop withdrawal to unsubstantiated allegations of human rights abuses.

Russia should be asked to abide by the commitments made in signing the CSCE declaration on July 8, 1992, which refers to "the early, orderly and complete withdrawal of ... foreign troops from the territories of the Baltic states".

Democracy in Russia can be gauged by her relations with the Baltic states. In this respect, the West's response to Russia's policy is crucial. By unambiguously referring to the considered views of its own human rights experts, acknowledging that "human rights" and "troop withdrawals" are two separate issues and citing last year's CSCE declaration, the West can help guide Russia along the path towards democracy.

Yours faithfully,  
RIVO SINIARV,  
Embassy of Estonia,  
16 Hyde Park Gate, SW7.  
JANIS LUSIS,  
Embassy of Latvia,  
72 Queensborough Terrace, W2.  
April 6.

## Contraceptive choice

From the President and Chairman of the National Association of Family Planning Doctors

Sir, We are greatly concerned that the government is intending to restrict the range of contraceptives available for NHS prescription.

Experience with upheavals in contraceptive practice in this country reveals their major impact on unplanned pregnancy rates. Since no one form of contraceptive suits everybody, successful contraception depends upon a wide range of methods, with unfettered choice being available. We find it difficult to understand how a government committed to both reduction in unplanned pregnancy rates and the maintenance of choice in family planning can contemplate this exercise — particularly as the products available in this country are already cheaper than the equivalent in other EC states. It has been calculated that £100 spent on family planning saves the nation £500.

Bearing in mind that at least 70 per cent of the adult population practise contraception, we believe that the government should seriously reconsider the inclusion of contraceptives in the latest review of prescription policy.

Yours faithfully,  
JOSEPHINE BARNES (President),  
DAVID BROMHAM (Chairman),  
National Association of Family Planning Doctors,  
27 Sussex Place,  
Regent's Park, NW1.

## Also ran

From Mr E. J. Butler

Sir, The leading article (April 5) on the Grand National fiasco stated that "Foinavon was the only horse to finish" in 1967. This is incorrect: 17 others finished too.

Yours faithfully,  
E. J. BUTLER,  
26 Gordondale Road,  
Wimbledon Park, SW19.

## Loyal to whom?

From Mr J. A. Thornton

Sir, Queensland's Labour premier, Wayne Goss, has recently announced that Queensland may be the first Australian state to drop all reference to the British Crown in oaths of allegiance and in legislation.

Perhaps the state could be renamed? Somehow Gossland does not have the same ring about it.

Yours faithfully,  
J. A. THORNTON,  
32 Overstrand Mansions,  
Prince of Wales Drive, SW11.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## City's and nation's choice on Europe

From Mr S. M. Yassukovich

Sir, As an international practitioner in the City of London for over 30 years, I find I am not alone in being concerned at the lack of confidence implied by those promoting ratification of the Maastricht treaty. Its endorsement is being represented as "make or break" for the United Kingdom's commercial interests. Even more surprisingly, leading City figures have suggested (letter, February 18) that the City's future as an international financial centre would be seriously prejudiced if the UK failed to ratify Maastricht.

This conclusion flies in the face of the facts. The City of London represents the greatest collection of financial institutions, markets and services in the world. I have yet to meet an international client who would alter existing or future flows of business to London solely as a consequence of the outcome of Maastricht.

The international financial world has settled in London because it is a global centre, not merely a European one. London is the vital link between the Asian and American markets.

The City is by far the largest foreign exchange market in the world and had become so before the UK was even a member of the EEC. To jeopardise this unique position for the sake of saving certain political faces is dangerous.

The argument sometimes made is that we must ratify Maastricht to ensure we have the influence to prevent the bureaucrats in Brussels from destroying the City through mindless regulation and restrictive practices. Indeed, the Commission does represent such a risk and the logical position of the City should be against ratification of a treaty promoting the greater centralisation of Community powers, a trend contrary to City interests. But whatever the outcome, it is foolish to suggest the City's position is at risk, unless it be from a failure in confidence and ability to exploit the extraordinary advantage we have over every rival centre.

Yours faithfully,  
S. M. YASSUKOVICH,  
Joint Deputy Chairman,  
International Stock Exchange, 1986-9,  
(Chairman), Cragnotti & Partners,  
Capital Investment (UK) Ltd,  
25 St James's Street, SW1.  
April 10.

## Voting reforms

From Professor Emeritus Ivor Gowan

Sir, Your leading article on the Plant report (April 5) is unbelievably complacent. British voters have not been asked whether they want electoral reform. The evidence of opinion polls suggests that most would like to change the present system.

The Plant commission should be congratulated on offering the Labour party a system superior to the one we have in ascertaining what is the true majority in each constituency. The Labour party in its turn should be applauded and not scolded for having a serious debate on proportional representation. I wish the Conservative party would do likewise.

The present electoral system fails to give us government by consent and without this the other constitutional reforms you seem to favour will be rooted in thin soil.

Yours faithfully,  
IVOR GOWAN,  
17 Wyckwood Paddocks,  
Charlbury, Oxford.  
April 6.

## From Sir John Walley

Sir, The alternative vote is not a system of party proportional representation but it was, I understand,

## Of pawns and prejudice

From Mr J. Chalmers Park

Sir, Your columns today contain much about the forthcoming World Chess Championship. You also report (later editions) a 16-year-old girl winning the women's draughts championship.

Since success in neither of these games appears to depend on superior male strength, is there any justification for separate women's events? The same point could also be made about championships for bridge or snooker.

Are women being excluded from the major events because of male prejudice or are they given events from which men are excluded because this is patronisingly thought to be the only way that they could win? No such concessions are thought necessary in equestrian events.

Yours faithfully,  
J. CHALMERS PARK,  
Rivlin,  
Hillside Road,  
Pinner Hill, Middlesex.  
April 2.

From Professor John Radford

Sir, Matthew d'Ancona, writing about Luke McShane, the world under-teen chess champion (Weekend, April 3), refers to "the pressures that have ruined so many gifted children". This

## Definition of who is an 'architect'

From Mr Tim Eaton

Sir, Under the protection of the Architects Registration Acts the term architect describes a person who has undertaken seven years prescribed training and qualified to adopt it as a professional title. A chartered architect is one who is also a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Earlier this year Mr John Warne reported to government on the de-regulation of the architectural profession. Much of his report is valuable. However, having recommended abolition of the present Register of Architects (maintained by the body which checks professional fitness to practise architecture), he goes on to recommend the removal of protection from the title "architect".

The RIBA, which does not represent all architects, has been advised that government intends to adopt the Warne report. Many architects are fuming.

If the term "architect" loses its protection, so that it may be used by all those who wish to style themselves, from the humblest draughtsperson to the highest prince, it will become weak and imprecise. Those who are trained will be obliged to add a qualifying term, just as chartered or certified accountants and some members of the RIBA already do, to distinguish themselves from the others.

This may be regarded as part of the natural movement which progressively weakens our definitions of words. Will it be applied by government to the other learned professions which are privileged to use protected titles? Will our neighbour at the bar of our village inn, the fisherman stoutly upholding his trade against alien regulation, legitimately call himself a barrister? Will the worthies at the Bar happily acquiesce to becoming chartered or certified barristers? I doubt it.

Yours faithfully,  
TIM EATON (architect),  
a-Wartha Menhyr,  
The Lizard, Cornwall.

## A matter of faith

From Sir Roy Strong

Sir, If William Rees-Mogg ("English decency lost by default", March 29) is so keen on the Church of England I keep on wanting to ask him, in charity, why is he a Roman Catholic? I write as a practising Anglican who would certainly support the disestablishment of the Church. Surely no one today who gives the matter any serious thought can square a solution that was appropriate to mid-Tudor England with one that is at all applicable to late 20th-century Britain?

What William Rees-Mogg does is what so many do, confuse faith with culture. I am Anglican because I believe in its theological stance not because I view Radio 4 as one of its many branches.

British society has survived because its institutions have on the whole known when to change and move on. We are at just such a moment.

Yours faithfully,  
ROY STRONG,  
The Laskett, Much Birch,  
Herefordshire.  
April 5.

## Savoy reopening

From Mr G. F. Wooldridge

Sir, Mr Julian Courtney, general manager of the Savoy Theatre, is unconvincing when explaining that the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company would be unavailable for the theatre's reopening as it would be on tour (letter, April 2).

The reopening was foreseen three years ago and there has been ample time to arrange for a unique occasion to be adequately celebrated. The obvious choice, of course, would have been *Patience*.

The non-availability of the D'Oyly Carte company is less of an obstacle than Mr Courtney implies. The days of definitive performances are long past and the assembly of an ad hoc company from the wealth of talent now available should have been an exciting challenge.

Yours faithfully,  
G. F. WOOLDRIDGE,  
Hallows Quay,  
Hallowsford, Worfield,  
Bridgnorth, Shropshire.  
April 3.

## Customers' revolt

From Mr Alan Davidson

Sir, It has been suggested that we who use British Rail might be called "travellers" (letter, April 7) or, once more, "passengers" (March 30). Why not "adventurers"?

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN DAVIDSON,  
Coombe House,  
Packers Hill, Holwell,  
Sherborne, Dorset.  
April 7.

## From Mr Michael P. Walters

Sir, In view of the current uncertainty of British Rail, why not "explorers"?

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL P. WALTERS,  
5 Cambrian Road,  
Richmond, Surrey.  
April 7.

From Mr Denis Young

Sir, Why no bridge prodigies?

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS YOUNG,  
The Old Manse, Glenlyon,  
Aberfeldy, Perthshire.







OBITUARIES

JOHN BURKILL

John Charles Burkill, FRS, mathematician and Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1968-1973, died on April 6 aged 93. He was born on February 1, 1900.

ALTHOUGH John Burkill's 20-year tenure of a tutorship of Peterhouse may have stemmed the flow of his original work, his release from that office was followed by a great burst of activity which finally won him due recognition. He shared Cambridge University's Adams Prize for original work in 1949 and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1953. His work was mainly in the field of integration, and in the application of the Lebesgue integral and more refined forms of integration to the theory of trigonometric series. He was also interested in polynomial approximation.

When he was elected Master of Peterhouse in 1968 it was the first time for many years that a mathematician had been chosen for the office. The three previous masters had all been historians.

John Burkill was educated at St Paul's School from where in 1917 he won a mathematical scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, taking up residence in 1919. He obtained first class honours in Part I of the Mathematical Tripos in 1919, and was a Wrangler in Part II, with distinction in Schedule B, in 1921.

He was elected to a fellowship at Trinity in the following year and was awarded a Smith's Prize in 1923. A year later he moved to Liverpool, where he held the professorship of pure mathematics for five years. In 1929 he returned to Cambridge as a fellow, lecturer and tutor of Peterhouse and university lecturer in mathematics.

RUSSELL PIPE

Russell Pipe, public relations officer at Conservative Central Office, died of carbon monoxide poisoning on April 6 aged 49. He was born on October 21, 1943.

ONE of the first crucial tests for John Major as prime minister was his performance at the Conservative party conference at Blackpool in October 1991. That this was deemed to be such a success by the party faithful, despite the brooding presence of Mrs Thatcher, was in no small part due to Russell Pipe — the deputy director of presentation at Conservative Central Office.

Mr Major's speech on the last day of the conference may have been greeted with thunderous applause, but to save any potentially unflattering comparison with Mrs Thatcher (whose record for an ovation at a previous conference stood at 13 minutes) Pipe had masterminded a subtle exit plan. Mr Major was led off the stage to mingle with

delegates after a mere five minutes of clapping and, to the strains of "Land of Hope and Glory", was shepherded out five minutes after that.

In business matters, particularly as chairman of a meeting, Burkill was efficient without fuss. The same unflinching calm characterised his social relationships. He was a pleasant companion, with a sense of humour that often showed itself in sly mimicry. In conversation he commanded an elegance of diction and an enviable economy of words. These qualities also found expression in the terse but lucid style of his original papers and his books: *The Lebesgue Integral* (1951), *The Theory of Ordinary Differential Equations* (1956), and *A First Course in Mathematical Analysis* (1962), which became the standard work for first-year students.

Burkill was popular as a lecturer, though some might have welcomed a rather more discursive style. He was a masterly exponent of the "crystalline sentences" that he attributed to others in one of his reviews, and his obituary notices of mathematicians often threw his subject's character into vivid relief by some particularly felicitous turn of phrase.

Burkill visited the United States as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, and again as visiting professor at the Rice Institute. He also went to India as visiting professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

His addition to skiing took him on regular Continental holidays in his younger days. In 1928 he married Margaret, daughter of Dr A. Braun, and had two daughters and a son. In the dark days of the 1930s and 1940s their Cambridge home became a haven for victims of persecution; and when Burkill and his wife travelled to the Far East in 1964 they found warm and grateful welcomes in return.

As devoted to Peterhouse as any indigenous member of the college, Burkill had no rival in his memory for Peterhouse names and faces.

As Master he continued to display his self-effacing efficiency. His sense of humour, potentially savage, was mostly under control — so was an innate pugnacity. His economy in words was extraordinary with the result that what he said mattered all the more. Conversation was, on his side, mostly a sequence of silences and smiles and he mistrusted fluent talkers. The college in many ways owes him a debt which it is hard to measure.

Digby Tatham-Warter, former company commander 2nd Battalion, Parachute Regiment, died on March 21 aged 75. He was born on May 26, 1917.

DIGBY Tatham-Warter was famously depicted in *A Bridge Too Far*, Richard Attenborough's 1977 film of the Allied defeat at Arnhem in 1944, as a crazed toff leading a bayonet charge sporting an old bowler hat and a tattered umbrella. But his character, personality and achievements were substantially greater than suggested by the film's rather trite cameo. He actually did wander around the ever-reducing perimeter at Arnhem Bridge urging his (and other) men on with the aid of a rolled umbrella, though there was neither bowler hat nor bayonet charge.

Educated at Wellington and Sandhurst (where he won The Saddle) Allison Digby Tatham-Warter was the second son of Henry de Grey Tatham-Warter, a country landowner with estates in the Midlands and the West Country. His father, having been badly gassed serving with the Artists' Rifles in the first world war, died prematurely when Digby was 11. Digby had three sisters, one of whom, Kit, won the Croix de Guerre while serving with the Hatfield Spears Unit in the Western Desert.

Her heroism coincided with the action at El Alamein in which her brother John was killed serving with The Buffs.

As in many families, the death of his elder brother was a further spur to Digby's determined attempts to get in to the war and kill Germans (despite having been a regular officer since 1937 he had thus far seen no action). His family background had made him ideally suited to the Indian Army into which he was commissioned. However, on attachment to The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry he decided to stay with them, while still able to enjoy the rigours of tiger shooting and pig sticking. Determined to get into action he transferred to the recently formed Parachute Regiment where he soon found himself commanding A Company 2 PARA under the already famous Johnny Frost (another rifleman).

During the months of training for Arnhem the battalion was stationed near Grantham, and Tatham-Warter's well-known exploits in tiger shooting and other entertainments in

DIGBY TATHAM-WARTER



Pioneer of camera-shoots: Digby Tatham-Warter on safari in Kenya's Aberdare Mountains in 1980

India with the Ox and Bucks were here enhanced by his ability to procure an American Dakota on at least one weekend to fly him and his company officers to London — where parties at the Ritz were in marked contrast to conditions in the sealed camp.

He is recalled as a particularly severe but inspirational commander of his men (few of whose names he apparently knew, nor was interested in). The soldiers were there to follow and to fight and he, above all, to lead. His officers (mainly drawn from similar backgrounds as his) were expected to emulate his attitudes and standards.

This management technique, however bizarre today, can nonetheless be

seen to have been effective in the desperate battles around the bridge at Arnhem, and in the subsequent escape in which Tatham-Warter played a pivotal role.

The battle at Arnhem resulted from Montgomery's ill-fated orders to "Lay me an airborne carpet to the Rhine" (dashing over which he would undoubtedly have beaten Patton into the heart of Germany). The bridge at Arnhem was the most distant of three bridges in Holland which the Allies needed to secure if they were going to outflank the Siegfried line and enable 30 Corps to cross the Rhine and advance into Germany. The operation was, of course, a complete and very bloody shambles and ended in what ought

to have been a predictable disaster when a necessarily lightly-armed force of ten thousand airborne troops was ultimately surrounded by the 2nd SS Panzer Corps (two armoured divisions) — whose likely presence had been reported to the planners.

Tatham-Warter was subsequently never less than undiplomatic in his views on the politics of this forlorn hope — notwithstanding his pride in having played an important role in and after it.

It was after the battle when he had escaped from a German-held hospital with his second-in-command, Tony Frank, that he helped to set up "Pegasus I". This was the successful escape across the Rhine by 133 airborne men and other assorted guests of the Dutch Resistance — assembled by Tatham-Warter in his travels in the occupied countryside on a bicycle lent to him by the Dutch family with which he was "billeted" (their official guests included SS Panzer Troops who assumed Tatham-Warter to be a Dutch imbecile).

The escape party included airmen, the odd Russian, and even an Indonesian officer of The Royal Netherlands Navy whose unlikely presence was rather obvious in daylight. On his return, Tatham-Warter was awarded a well-deserved DSO (some thought a VC would have been more appropriate).

Postwar operations in Palestine — despite such entertaining diversions as teaching Arabs to shoot sand grouse and hunting desert fox — found little attraction for Tatham-Warter and he emigrated to Kenya in 1946.

There he was very nearly able to return to the time-war from which he had conducted himself during his days of regular soldiering — and most certainly avoided the miseries of Atlee's great socialist nirvana.

At Nanyuki, where he had purchased two very large estates, he set up a somewhat desultory, though very successful, safari organisation (he would never have referred to it as a business) in partnership with Colonel Hilary Hook. Many of their wealthy clients were to remark on their culture shock on first meeting these two eccentric English gentlemen and the subsequent experiences through which they were led — which was, of course, precisely what they were paying for.

For all his seemingly ferocious manner and imperial background, Tatham-Warter was forty years

ahead of his time in introducing the concept of safaris in which the game was shot by camera rather than gun (he perhaps considered his guests not up to the latter).

During the Mau Mau Emergency Tatham-Warter, typically, raised, commanded and funded a mounted police unit from volunteer farmers and expatriates to some serious effect. This tied in with his captaincy of the Kenyan Polo Team (6 handicap) and other equestrian activities both organisational and practical. He was able to combine a hefty social calendar with fishing, sailing and carpentry — which he undertook with typical enthusiasm — somewhat remarkably producing exquisite inlaid pieces.

He was quickly established in the higher reaches of expatriate existence (on which Kenyan independence had very little effect) to the extent that a series of British Defence Advisers would be told by the High Commissioner to "Look after Tatham-Warter". One such officer, late of Digby's regiment, was not entirely clear what this meant but soon found out when, after an introductory "I suppose you're another bloody mealy-mouthed Diplomat", his charge took him off to a Beating of Retreat by a British Infantry Battalion. As Tatham-Warter, a VIP guest, stood for "Sunset" his trousers slowly, and in time with the lowering Standards, dropped to his ankles. He later claimed "loss of weight" although the cognoscenti had their doubts.

Of course the austere exterior belied a self-mocking humour and a fundamentally anti-establishment attitude (it never, after all, had been his establishment). Those picked, after rigorous selection, to join Digby's very tight circle of friends were allowed a clear view of a complex character shaped by a background which today would simply not be understood. Within this exclusive circle, mostly though not entirely from his own world, he was a warm, lovable man who would do anything for his friends and a wonderful even notorious host. He left an indelible stamp on everything he did and had only one standard in all things — his own.

Gerald Lathbury, Tatham-Warter's brigade commander, once remarked (probably in Digby's defence): "But every battalion needs a Digby." Officers, and many of the men, serving to-day would almost certainly agree.

CHISHU RYU



Chishu Ryu with Kuniko Miyaki in Yasujiro Ozu's film Ohayo (Good Morning)

Chishu Ryu, veteran Japanese film actor, died in Yokohama on March 16 aged 88. He was born on May 13, 1904.

THE cinema career of Chishu Ryu is closely associated with the films of Yasujiro Ozu, and the director's death of cancer at the age of 60 was a great blow to him. Ryu was remarkable for the sense of sympathetic, almost benevolent, melancholy which his screen presence radiated, and Ozu valued him for what amounted to an inability to overact. Perhaps Ryu's most celebrated performance was in *Tokyo Monogatari* (1953) which enjoyed great success in the English-speaking world as *Tokyo Story* after its release in 1972, in the United States.

In it Ryu played an elderly man whose wife (played by Chiyeko Higashiyama) dies after they have paid a visit to their children and grandchildren. The narrative of *Tokyo Story* is simple enough. The old couple leave their rural home by the sea to pay the visit to their grown-up children in Tokyo, but find that they, and their children in turn, have become greedy and uncaring. Rebuffed by this materialistic selfishness, the grandparents return sadly home where the wife dies. As a solitary old man left to face life without the

consoling company of children and grandchildren, Ryu's performance is germane to a film which has become acknowledged as one of the supreme masterpieces of the cinema.

Chishu Ryu's quietistic quality may have stemmed from the fact that he was the son of a Buddhist priest who wanted him to follow his vocation. But Ryu opted for the cinema and in the 1920s joined the giant Shochiku film studios in Tokyo.

For some years he had no more than bit parts until, in 1928 he was noticed by Ozu who gave him a small part and then tried him in more substantial roles. Ryu broke through to public recognition in *I Flunked the Exam*, but... in 1930, and thereafter was regularly employed by Ozu. He next appeared in one of Ozu's social comedies of growing up, *I was Born*, but... He also appeared in Ozu's remake of the film, entitled *Ohayo* (Good Morning), which came out in 1959.

When Ozu died in 1963 Ryu was devastated. Although he worked with other directors thereafter, notably Kurosawa for whom he appeared in such films as *The Bad Sleep Well* and *Dreams*, it was as if the magnificence of his screen performances had died with Ozu. Nevertheless he had a popular success in a completely differ-

ent vein. To Japanese audiences he became well known as the Tokyo priest in the Shochiku studio comedy film series *Tora-san*, which has pride of place in cinema annals (and in the *Guinness Book of Records*) for a durability unmatched by any other film series. *Rocky*, *Star Trek* and other long-runners of Western screen culture pale into insignificance before the

awesome performance of the Shochiku blockbuster, which opened its account with *Tora-san I* in 1959, and had clocked up *Tora-san XLIV* by 1991.

When, in 1985, Wim Wenders made his documentary, *Tokyo-ga*, he interviewed Ryu, filming him as he knelt, in silent humility, at the grave of his old friend and mentor, Ozu.

BILL STEWART

Bill Stewart, television director and producer, died on March 17, at Heathrow Airport after returning from filming in Madeira, aged 67. He was born on October 25, 1925.

WORKING for ATV in the late 1950s, Bill Stewart directed a succession of popular programmes including *Emergency Ward 10*, *Mrs Thursday*, *The Sullivan Brothers* and *Sergeant Cork*.

Born in London, he spent his early childhood in Islington and while a student at the Royal College of Music appeared in many London dance halls as a vocalist and instrumentalist. He joined ENSA before being recruited into the army at 18, and then became Entertainments Officer while stationed in Singapore.

After the war Stewart returned to study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, before moving into theatre stage management, and, while working as stage director at the Victoria Palace in London during the run of *The Love Match*, he met and married Anthea, the actress daughter of the comedian Arthur Askey although they were later divorced.

Stewart began his career in television in 1957, initially as a studio manager, and in the early 1960s he left ATV to set up the Granville Studios in Fulham, with a television presenter, Peter Lloyd, before forming his own company WSTV. His independent film and video production company produced TV commercials, road shows and conferences, as well as corpo-

rate and training videos for a range of clients which included the late industrialist Len Mainman, Marks & Spencer, British Nuclear Fuels, Barratt Homes and Shell.

Stewart played a major part in staging the Confederation of British Industry's first national conference at Brighton in 1977 and took a leading role in the television presentation of each of the CBI annual conferences since then. He also stage-managed conferences for the Building Societies' Association and the Advertising Association, as well as co-ordinating the International Broadcasting Convention in Holland and the National Broadcasting Conference in America.

The high quality of his work won him ten BISFA and ITVA awards.

Totally professional, Stewart's outgoing, friendly personality always ensured a happy production, while his humour, charm and generosity gained him many friends. He leaves three children, Jane, Andrew and William.



VARIATIONS IN RATIONS  
MORE BUTTER AND LESS BACON

The Minister of Food announced yesterday that the butter ration will be increased temporarily from 4oz. to 5oz. a week in the next rationing period beginning on April 23.

At the same time the extra ounce of bacon which has been issued since January 29 will be withdrawn and the ration will return to 4oz. a week.

There will also be changes in the points rationing scheme in the next period, but details will not be announced until next week.

Mr. Webb, who gave this news at a Press conference in London, said that an increase in the butter ration had been made possible by good production in Australia and New Zealand, and because the season in Europe had begun so well. The margarine ration would remain at 4oz. and consumers would continue to have the option of taking margarine instead of butter. The total fat ration was now at the highest level since rationing began.

ON THIS DAY  
April 13 1950

Although the war in Europe had been over for nearly five years many foods were still rationed in Britain.

extra ounce of bacon was to be issued from January 29 until stocks had been reduced to the normal prudent level, and as this had now been reached the ration would revert to 4oz. a week. Other variations of the bacon ration might be necessary during the year, for much of the supply depended upon the surplus production of other countries which could not be forecast accurately.

The Ministry had completed a review of the points rationing scheme and had decided to maintain it in a restricted form. To avoid embarrassing grocers, details of the changes affecting goods on points and the total

number of points available would be announced next week. Some goods would definitely be off points, and the working of the new scheme would be reviewed after a short period of perhaps a month.

Other points made by the Minister were: MILK.—Whether registration should now be reviewed. There was no possibility this year of supplying cream.

HOTEL MEAL LIMIT OF 5s.—An announcement would be made in a week or two. Mr. Webb remarked that there was a danger of attracting unrationed goods from the domestic consumer to the caterer.

SWEETS.—"I am not worried about sweets," he said. "I am much more worried about the sugar position. We shall not do anything about sweets until we have dealt with the domestic sugar ration."

BANANAS.—Supplies were still much below pre-war level and limited distribution must remain.

LONDON MEAT RATION MAY BE SHORT

Deliveries of meat to butchers in London this week are not expected to be enough to meet the full ration because of the continued embargo on overtime by Smithfield van drivers and the short working week caused by the Easter holiday.



## NEWS

## South Africa tense after shooting

Tens of thousands of black protesters took to the streets as black anger at the death of Chris Hani, the South African communist leader, boiled up into calls for arms against whites. Shots were fired by black radicals, cars and police were stoned and vehicles set ablaze.

There are fears that anarchy could destroy hopes of peaceful political reform. "The situation is tense and chaotic," said police Brigadier Frans Malherbe. Pages 1, 11, 14

## Teachers reject anti-Major campaign

Britain's biggest teaching union, the National Union of Teachers, refused to join a concerted campaign against the government by public sector workers, as its leadership struggled with more militant activists to contain plans for industrial action in schools. Pages 1, 2

## Nato goes in

Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, accused the international community of "brutal force" as Nato fighters began to enforce the UN-declared no-fly zone over Bosnia in the alliance's first combat mission. Pages 1, 10

## Housing fillip

Spring fever in the housing market over the holiday is the best sign so far that the property market is on the road to recovery, estate agents said. Building societies are expecting a rush of applications. Page 1

## Tests condemned

The national curriculum and testing system are a monument to bureaucracy that is enslaving teachers, the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers was told by its president. Page 2

## Tory offensive

Campaigning for local elections starts this week, with the Tories mounting a counter-attack over the new council tax and value for money in local government. The May 6 balloting will be the first big electoral test of this parliament. Page 2

## Holiday toll

Two sisters, aged 5 and 7, killed in Middlesbrough, when a car mounted the pavement, and three pensioners were among at least 19 people who died in Easter accidents. Last year saw only four fatalities. Pages 1, 3

## That will do very nicely, sir

The late Francis Bacon joins the roll-call of the struggling, the starving and the broke who paid their restaurant bills by knocking off a painting. A portrait of Lucian Freud traded by the hopeful but still-unrecognised Bacon in return for a good many square meals is expected to make up to £300,000 when it comes up for auction at Sotheby's. Page 3

## Screen heroes

Computer video games featuring karate fighters are turning martial arts into the second most popular sport for boys after football. Page 5

## Ramblers revolt

Weekend walkers fear access to huge areas of woodland could be denied if the government proceeds with plans to privatise two million acres of Forestry Commission land. Page 6

## Plea for blind

More than half the country's one million registered blind people live on or below the poverty line, according to the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Page 6

## Italian tension

Reports that two Mafia informers have linked Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian prime minister, to the 1978 kidnapping of Aldo Moro and the murder of a journalist heightened political tensions in Italy. Page 8

## Yeltsin mission

President Yeltsin sets off this week on a hasty charm offensive intended to persuade Russia's indifferent voters to support his reforms, despite the hardships of the past year. Page 10

## Budget assessment

Peter Brimelow, Senior Editor at *Forbes* magazine, in the first of three articles from New York, assesses the Clinton administration's attempts to reduce the budget deficit. Page 11



Tense atmosphere: Michael Foale, a British scientist, working on the flight deck of the space shuttle Discovery. The eight-day mission which ends on Friday, involves the recovery of a satellite that has been observing the ozone layer

## DAF rescue: A management buy-out bid, worth around £100 million, for the profitable Leyland DAF spares operation at Chorley, Lancashire, is close. With other buyouts imminent, survival of the group looks probable, though much slimmed down. Page 36

Polish anger: Investors in Wedel, a brand name in Poland, are threatening action to secure compensation from the PepsiCo-controlled management, which overlooked a tax holiday. Page 36

New issue: Clydesdale Group, Scotland's leading electrical retailer, is the latest company to take advantage of the City's appetite for new issues. Page 33

## Football: Manchester United and Aston Villa continued their close race for the Premier League title with 1-0 away victories at Coventry and Arsenal. Page 19

Motor racing: Tom Wheatcroft, the owner of the Donington Park circuit that hosted the Grand Prix of Europe on Sunday, has struggled against estimated losses of more than £1 million and said he was keen for the race to return. Page 24

Racing: Ebony Jane, ridden by Charlie Swan, won the Jameson Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse, holding on from Rust Never Sleeps. Zeta's Lad fared best of the five-strong English party, finishing third. Page 22

## Woman's work: The female soldier has rarely been part of a fighting machine, except when she has dressed as a man to follow her politics, or perhaps her husband, Kate Muir on Bosnia's women soldiers. Page 12

Calories off: A "wonderdrug" that could allow you to eat whatever you like and still not put on weight may soon be part of a revised approach to dieting. Page 13

Keeping calm: American insurance companies are using alternative dispute resolution to resolve arguments over claims arising from storm damage. Page 26

Drama out of chaos theory? Tom Stoppard's play *Arcadia*, which opens tonight at the National Theatre, celebrates scientific ideas in a way which is unusual, if not unique, in British theatre, says Nigel Hawkes. Page 29

To dance, or not to dance: Danish choreographer Kim Brandstrup talks about how his company is interpreting *Hamlet* in a Sadler's Wells production. Page 30

Close-up from a distance: Paul McCartney invited the television cameras to film him in performance and backstage but last night's programme revealed almost nothing about this titan of English rock history. Page 30

## TV LISTINGS

Marilyn Wheatcroft's film, *The Agony of the Ecstasy*, draws a contrast between 19th-century prudery and the explicit counsel which is more usually on offer today. 40 Minutes (BBC2, 9.50 pm). Page 35

## OPINION

## Federalist failure

If Europe ever decides to become a single federal state, there will be a strong argument for a single currency or a monetary union. Until then, attempts to create a federal Europe by the monetary back door will continue to wreak economic havoc. Page 15

## Open prisons

The public should not be denied information about punishment administered in its name, any more than private security firms should be shielded from necessary scrutiny simply to protect their commercial interests. Page 15

## Cracks in the wall

In the technocratic era, the gulf between literature and science has grown as wide as the divide between sacred and profane ever was in ancient times. Page 15

## BERNARD LEVIN

I do not speak or read Russian, but I can make out most of the characters on the sheets before me, and I can certainly decipher the first name, as I realise whose name it is. I swear that the room becomes colder. For I already know, from the translation, what the document contains. Page 14

## LYNNE TRUSS

I was of course hugely delighted to find that the Princess of Wales had emerged the clear winner in the PR stakes (well done, Diana!) until I suddenly realised how mad and scary it all was. For goodness' sake, had I really been judging these people by their ability to attract ladders. Page 14

## THE AMBASSADORS

The ambassadors of Latvia and Estonia take issue with the statement at the Clinton-Yeltsin summit linking the withdrawal of Russian troops from their countries to alleged violations of human rights there. Page 15

## PEACE-KEEPING

Peace-keeping is turning into a booming business for the United Nations. The scale of its operations, measured by the size of the forces involved, has quintupled in the past two years. — Washington Post

## THE TIMES TOMORROW

## Manning the battlements

When is an Englishman's home not his castle? When, it seems, he applies for a council grant

## Putting on cut-price style

Rachel Kelly explains how to get a designer wardrobe for just £100

## Dressing up old favourites

When does an adaptation become a new play? Benedict Nightingale looks at the Royal Shakespeare Company's *A Jovial Crew* and other examples of revisionism, ancient and modern



Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish prime minister, called a general election on June 6, instead of holding it out until October. Page 8

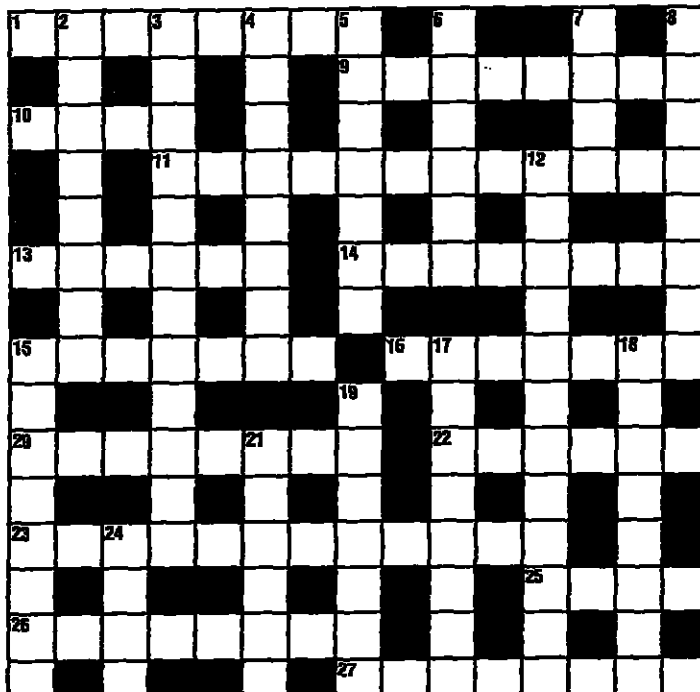


Margaret Recce told how her fiancé's refusal to hand over his video camera led to his death at the hands of muggers in New Orleans. Page 3



Ann Scargill, wife of the NUM president, and three other women ended their underground sit-in at Parkside Colliery, Merseyside. Page 2

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,203



## ACROSS

- 1 Voice production of female singer exuded from radio (8).
- 9 Way a robber mostly takes half of this (8).
- 10 A decoration once, originally including shells (4).
- 11 Orthodox community residence beside island lake (12).
- 13 A deer reversed it with one foot (6).
- 14 Councillor secures title for ship's supplier (8).
- 15 Transport extra for this union member (7).
- 16 Describing the main area where the rollers are to be found (7).
- 20 Protective covering for a rhino's head when adult (8).
- 22 Agree to nurse in a small way (6).
- 23 The ability to take in information (12).
- 25 A second state—very largely land! (4).

## Solution to Puzzle No 19,202

MEDIOCRITY DANCE  
O E V E A B A  
D E F I G A T E U S E R  
E B R I T N I T E S  
W I E R D M A I N T A N E  
A S H E G  
D E S I R E D C H E E R S  
A O R C T I N  
M A L A M I P I M I E N T O  
A I I E T N O P  
N O N E N T I T Y G A M P  
I C G A H A I P  
I D O A S S A I L A N T P  
N I E L E R S  
E R N E A D L E S C E N T

## DOWN

- 26 Eastern ruler in training before a riding display (8).
- 27 Lack of means restricting publicity at present (8).
- 1 It may give support to the theoretical critic (8).
- 3 For a fence going round in the right direction, it's all that's needed (5-2-5).
- 4 Barrier put up before president received sailors (8).
- 5 Breach of conduct causing resentment (7).
- 6 Shakespearean heiress's father keeping potential riot within bounds (6).
- 7 Pole with point used in building grain store (4).
- 8 Bad-tempered, like Greek singers interrupted by the French (8).
- 12 Traveller's joy, depending on GBS (3,4,5).
- 15 Relative position of supporters of journal (8).
- 17 Woodcutter bringing tea, in the old saying (5-3).
- 18 Bad odour upset soldier on elevated road to New York (8).
- 19 Like Poincaré, start to investigate in Bengal, perhaps (7).
- 21 Remove charge for dump (6).
- 24 Large book going into Mendel's laws (4).

## Concise Crossword, page 36

The Sixteenth Book of The Times Crosswords is published today, price £3.50 from booksellers or Sales Dept., HarperCollins Publishers, PO Box, Glasgow G4 0NB.

## THE TIMES WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0801 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon, Dorset & Cornwall	703
Wilt, Gloucestershire, Somerset	704
Berkshire, Oxfordshire	705
Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire	706
Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire	707
West Midlands & Shropshire	708
Shropshire, Herefordshire & Worcestershire	709
Central Midlands	710
Lincolnshire & Humberside	711
Yorkshire & Cleveland	712
North East	713
North West	714
West Yorkshire	715
W & S Yorkshire & Durham	716
North East	717
North West	718
West Yorkshire	719
W & S Yorkshire & Durham	720
North East	721
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West Yorkshire	791
W & S Yorkshire & Durham	792
North East	793
North West	794
West Yorkshire	795
W & S Yorkshire & Durham	796
North East	797
North West	798
West Yorkshire	799
W & S Yorkshire & Durham	800

Weather forecast is changed at 36p per minute (cheaper rates) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within N & S Circles)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	734
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Wales	740
Midlands	741
East Anglia	742
North-West England	743
North-East England	744
Scotland	745
Northern Ireland	746

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheaper rates) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Much of England and Wales will start mainly dry and bright after early mist clears. However, showers will develop during the morning, and will be locally heavy at times in the afternoon. Northeast Scotland should have a mostly dry and bright day. Remaining areas will be generally rather cloudy but mostly dry. Temperatures generally a little below normal but rather cold along exposed North Sea coasts. Outlook: staying unsettled.

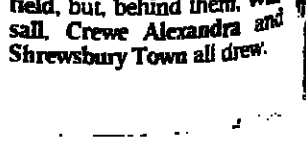
## MIDLANDS

MODAY: l=thunder, d=dizzle, lg=fog, s=sun, al=abse, w=wind, c=cloud				Rain		Max	
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## SCHOOLS SPORT

## Scoring feat defies knee injury

By CHRISTOPHER DIGHTON

ALEX WORTHINGTON, of Westminster School, has defied surgeons to reach a milestone in football that he would never have thought possible two years ago — scoring 50 goals for the school's first team.

Worthington, playing for Westminster against Christchurch College in January 1991, went down five minutes from time with a knee injury that turned out to be a cruciate ligament damage. All three ligaments in his left knee had snapped and the immediate fear was that he would be lucky to run again, let alone play football.

The extent of the injury made the cruciate problems of Paul Gascoigne and John Salako, the England internationals, appear almost minor. Worthington, who was treated at Westminster Hospital, made a remarkable recovery and was playing cricket last summer, captaining the school's first team and also playing for Surrey Young Cricketers.

The true test of the repair work, however, was to come when he returned to the football side last month. He scored a hat-trick in a 6-0 victory over City of London School and finished the season with another hat-trick to take his tally to 53 goals. Worthington started playing for the Westminster first team as a 13-year-old.

Worthington, born in Seville, spends every school holiday in the country of his birth and had been on the point of signing forms with Sevilla, when he was injured.

"When he is on holiday he plays at Sevilla as a junior, and he had created enough interest to receive an offer," Ken Worthington, his father, said.

"Football has always been his first love and I had penned a letter to Westminster saying that he wanted to join Sevilla when the injury happened. In the event, the letter was never sent and he continued his studies."

"He still wants to play for Sevilla, but he has to complete his schoolwork and will be back to captain the cricket team."

"He will then have to choose between football and a place at Oxford."

RESULTS: English Schools January Festival. Reading 0, Bishop Auckland 4; Huddersfield 0, Gillingham 3; West Ham 3, Chelsea 1; Middlesbrough 4, Thurrock 4; Newbury 1, Gillingham 2; South Oxford 2, Jersey 2; Westington 0.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

## FA Premier League

Oxford v Sheffield United (7.30)

## Barclays League

First division

Cambridge v Watford (7.45)

Luton v West Ham (7.45)

## Second division

Barnet v Chester (7.30)

Bournemouth v Burnley (7.45)

Port Vale v Bradford (7.45)

## Third division

Rochdale v Bury (7.45)

Walsley v Wrexham (7.30)

Torquay v Barnet (7.30)

## GM Vauxhall Conference

Sough v Wycombe (7.45, at ticket)

## DADORA LEAGUE: Premier division

Wolverhampton v Wrexham (7.30)

## SMITHS IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare v Linfield (7.45)

Coleraine v Bangor; Carrick v Derry; Larne v Clontarf; Ballymena v Ballyclare

## POINTS LEAGUE: First division

Sheff Wed v Walsley; Walsley v Walsley; Walsley v Walsley

## NEVILLE OVERSEAS COMBINATION: First division

CPR v Portsmouth (2.00)

## FA YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP: Semi-final

Second leg: Millwall v Manchester United

## OTHER SPORT

GYMNASTICS: World championships (Birmingham)

SQUASH: 16-18 British open championships (London)

## THE TIMES

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## Rushing Wild put down as gallant Irish mare triumphs in thrilling Fairyhouse feature

## Swan caps memorable campaign on Ebony Jane

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

THE success story of Charlie Swan continues. Last year, he established a record for National Hunt winners in Ireland and, more recently, he landed a four-figure to emerge as the top jockey at the Cheltenham festival.

His success was taken a stage further when he achieved his first victory in the Jockey Club Grand National at Fairyhouse yesterday on the eight-year-old mare Ebony Jane.

The race was marred, however, by the loss of the Martin Pipe-trained Rushing Wild, the brave runner-up in this year's Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham, who was put down after breaking his pelvis. This former hunter chaser was leading the field before being pulled up seven fences from home.

Swan had been among the leaders from the start on Ebony Jane, trained by Francis Flood and, when Rushing Wild was pulled up, the final pattern of the event was beginning to take shape. A prominent trio included her, Joe White and Zeta's Lad and it was Joe White who went on and led the charge downhill to the third-last fence.

At that point, Swan produced Ebony Jane to come and win her race and, although there were some in the stands who thought he had come too early, it was the valuable ground that he gained at this stage that determined the issue.

On her three previous runs this year, Ebony Jane had

## RACE DETAILS

## 3.55 JAMESON IRISH GRAND NATIONAL

(Handicap chase, 10.55.200, 3m 5f)

1. EBONY JANE (C Swan, 6-1); 2. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 3. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 4. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 5. ALSO RAN: 6. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 7. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 8. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 9. ALSO RAN: 10. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 11. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 12. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 13. ALSO RAN: 14. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 15. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 16. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 17. ALSO RAN: 18. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 19. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 20. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 21. ALSO RAN: 22. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 23. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 24. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 25. ALSO RAN: 26. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 27. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 28. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 29. ALSO RAN: 30. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 31. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 32. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 33. ALSO RAN: 34. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 35. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 36. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 37. 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Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 561. ALSO RAN: 562. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 563. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 564. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 565. ALSO RAN: 566. Rushing Wild (A O'Brien, 6-1); 567. Zeta's Lad (J O'Brien, 6-1); 568. Alcorn (C Swan, 20-1); 569. ALSO RAN: 570.







# Wheatcroft sees silver lining in clouds over Donington



Wheatcroft: optimistic

TOM Wheatcroft, the owner of the Donington Park circuit that hosted the European Grand Prix on Sunday, yesterday shrugged aside estimated losses of more than £1 million on the race and said he was keen it should return to the track next year.

Ayrton Senna lit up a grey day in Leicestershire with a remarkable display of courageous driving and tactical astuteness on his way to an emphatic win, but the show that forced a succession of tyre changes kept the attendance down to 50,000, 30,000 below expectations.

Wheatcroft, 70, a millionaire who earned his fortune in the construction industry,

spent £600,000 on safety improvements at the track in pursuit of his dream of staging a grand prix and it cost a further £3.3 million to finance the race.

Most of the drivers' fears about the track — Alain Prost said it was so tight it was "like driving in my kitchen" — were dispelled by the first practice session and, despite the treacherous conditions, there were no serious accidents.

"Senna told me it was the best organised race he has ever driven in," Wheatcroft said. "There was all that rain, but not once was there a red flag waved because of an accident and that is a test-



Oliver Holt finds the owner of the track that staged the European grand prix planning for next year

ment to the safety of the track.

"I have lost a lot of money on it, a lot more than hundreds of thousands of pounds, but the race could not have been at a worse time. Since Christmas, everybody has been talking about Indianapolis and it was only after the first grand prix, in South Africa, that ticket sales started picking up.

"Who could have known there would be all this rain

and that there would be such a shortage of money in England with the recession? But I have made everything in my life pay and I can turn this race around. I know we can stage the grand prix better than Silverstone and I will be going to Bernie Ecclestone to tell him that we want the race again next year."

Ecclestone, the president of the Formula One Constructors' Association, was instrumental in bringing the race to

Donington. But it was offered strictly on a one-off basis and it is thought he may attempt to find backing for the race next year in the United States. If Wheatcroft fails to stage it, he could challenge Silverstone for the British Grand Prix when its contract runs out in 1996.

The wrangling over Senna's contract, meanwhile, looks as though it will become one of the enduring themes of the season. Even in the euphoria of victory, he would not say if he would be racing in the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola in a fortnight's time.

If his argument with McLaren is about money, as many suspect, his case for a

better package has improved immeasurably in the last two races, when he has humbled the Williams-Renaults of Prost and Damon Hill.

The Brazilian is also attempting to put pressure on Ford, who supply McLaren's engines, to give the team access to the engines used by Benetton. Benetton has a clause in its agreement with Ford that insists it has the only claim on the most advanced engine.

But, as Michael Schumacher struggles to make an impression, Ford must be re-evaluating where its best hopes of a share in the constructor's championship lie.

## US team turns up heat on winter winners

BY CRAIG LORD

JEFF Rouse demolished the world short-course record for 100 metres backstroke at Sheffield yesterday, taking 51.43sec to claim the £6,000 prize. His American teammate, Jon Olson, came within 0.05sec of the 100 metres freestyle world record, his 48.25sec being the second fastest.

But their achievements at the World Challenge in the Ponds Forge pool ran deeper than records. In slicing 1.07sec off the time set a year ago by Mark Tewksbury, the Canadian who edged Rouse out for the Olympic title in Barcelona, the economics student from Stanford University became the first American to hold a world record in a 25-metre pool.

That, combined with Olson's performance, which made a world-class 49.25sec swim by Mark Foster, of Britain, look a trifle sluggish, sent a clear message to authorities in America and to competitors who have enjoyed the limelight on a winter World Cup circuit devoid of Americans.

US Swimming, the governing body, has refused to send an American team to the five-year-old World Cup on the grounds that many of its top team are college students who are duty-bound to compete in the collegiate championships. The explosive efforts of Rouse and Olson may make them change their minds.

Rouse, 22, said: "I believe we should have more freedom to decide. I love racing short-course and it's more exciting for the audience." More than 1,500 watched Rouse emerge from his 15-metre submarine start a body-length ahead of Martin Harris, the British No. 1, and six others. "I train short-course yards, so my start and turns are sharp," Rouse said.

While the Americans were the stars of the show, British swimmers also excelled, most notably Sarah Hardcastle, who, once again, had a lonely battle against the clock. Eight months into her comeback, her 4min 09.35sec at 400 metres freestyle was the fastest by a British woman since she retired almost seven years ago.

Nick Gillingham, the world short-course record-holder at 200 metres breaststroke, held at bay a handful of Olympic finalists in that event. In 2min 10.08sec, he led four men who broke the 2min 11sec mark.

Other English victories came courtesy of Paul Palmer in the 1,000 metres freestyle eliminator and Foster, who gained revenge on Olson in the 50 metres freestyle.

RESULTS: Men: 50m freestyle: 1. M Foster (Eng), 22.16sec; 2. J Olson (US), 22.42; 100m freestyle: 1. J Olson (US), 48.25sec; 2. M Foster (Eng), 49.32; 200m freestyle: 1. A Palmer (Eng), 1min 47.15sec; 2. P Palmer (Eng), 1min 47.15sec; 400m freestyle: 1. S Hardcastle (Eng), 4min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 4min 10.08sec; 800m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 8min 20.08sec; 1,000m freestyle: 1. N Gillingham (US), 10min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 10min 10.08sec; 1,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 15min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 15min 10.08sec; 2,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 20min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 20min 10.08sec; 2,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 25min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 25min 10.08sec; 3,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 30min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 30min 10.08sec; 3,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 35min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 35min 10.08sec; 4,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 40min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 40min 10.08sec; 4,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 45min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 45min 10.08sec; 5,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 50min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 50min 10.08sec; 5,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 55min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 55min 10.08sec; 6,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 60min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 60min 10.08sec; 6,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 65min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 65min 10.08sec; 7,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 70min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 70min 10.08sec; 7,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 75min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 75min 10.08sec; 8,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 80min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 80min 10.08sec; 8,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 85min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 85min 10.08sec; 9,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 90min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 90min 10.08sec; 9,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 95min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 95min 10.08sec; 10,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 100min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 100min 10.08sec; 10,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 105min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 105min 10.08sec; 11,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 110min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 110min 10.08sec; 11,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 115min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 115min 10.08sec; 12,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 120min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 120min 10.08sec; 12,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 125min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 125min 10.08sec; 13,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 130min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 130min 10.08sec; 13,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 135min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 135min 10.08sec; 14,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 140min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 140min 10.08sec; 14,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 145min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 145min 10.08sec; 15,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 150min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 150min 10.08sec; 15,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 155min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 155min 10.08sec; 16,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 160min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 160min 10.08sec; 16,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 165min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 165min 10.08sec; 17,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 170min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 170min 10.08sec; 17,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 175min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 175min 10.08sec; 18,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 180min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 180min 10.08sec; 18,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 185min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 185min 10.08sec; 19,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 190min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 190min 10.08sec; 19,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 195min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 195min 10.08sec; 20,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 200min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 200min 10.08sec; 20,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 205min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 205min 10.08sec; 21,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 210min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 210min 10.08sec; 21,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 215min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 215min 10.08sec; 22,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 220min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 220min 10.08sec; 22,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 225min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 225min 10.08sec; 23,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 230min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 230min 10.08sec; 23,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 235min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 235min 10.08sec; 24,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 240min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 240min 10.08sec; 24,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 245min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 245min 10.08sec; 25,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 250min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 250min 10.08sec; 25,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 255min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 255min 10.08sec; 26,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 260min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 260min 10.08sec; 26,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 265min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 265min 10.08sec; 27,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 270min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 270min 10.08sec; 27,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 275min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 275min 10.08sec; 28,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 280min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 280min 10.08sec; 28,500m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 285min 09.35sec; 2. J Gillingham (US), 285min 10.08sec; 29,000m freestyle: 1. J Gillingham (US), 290min 09.35sec; 2. 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Settling disputes out of court: **Patrick O'Donovan** and **Alexander Davidson** report

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

**Plain sailing: the public/private sector approach has worked well to the benefit of the shipping community in London and worldwide**

● Patrick O'Donovan is a partner in Bowyer Marine, maritime law consultants, and a practising maritime arbitrator.

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مَكْذُوبًا مِنَ الْأَصْلِ



# US team turns up heat on winter winners

By Graham Smith

JEFF Rouse demolished the world short-course record for 100 metres in Sheffield yesterday, taking 51.53 seconds in the 50,000 prize. His American team mate, Jon Olsson, took the 200 metres world record, he took 1:58.00, beating the previous record of 1:58.50.

But their achievements at the World Championships in the Polish village of Bydgoszcz were overshadowed by the dramatic comeback of the American team in the 4x100 metres relay. The Americans, who had been out of the race for most of the first 100 metres, came back to win the race in 3:36.00, beating the previous record of 3:36.50.

The Americans' comeback was a surprise to many, as they had been out of the race for most of the first 100 metres. The Americans, who had been out of the race for most of the first 100 metres, came back to win the race in 3:36.00, beating the previous record of 3:36.50.

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# Sleeping tiger or toothless wonder?

Richard Gordon claims that the sloppily drafted Community Care Act may merely transfer responsibility for the homeless and the mentally ill to the courts

Even in the short time that local authorities took over responsibility for community care of vulnerable groups of people, including the mentally ill, the likelihood of legal actions is already looming large. The new system, brought in on April 1 under sections of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, put financial control directly in the hands of the purchasing arms of social services departments. It is these departments, through committees, which will, as resource holders, assess needs and decide what services are to be provided.

**'Will the 1990 Act become a charter for evasion on the part of authorities which simply do not have funds for services?'**

But suppose — as is widely feared — that there is a significant deficit of resources? The community care philosophy, as expressed in the government's white paper, *Caring for People*, assumes full resource levels when it espouses "providing the right level of intervention and support to enable people to achieve maximum independence and control over their own lives". Yet the possible lack of resources strikes at the very heart of this philosophy.

The upshot threatens to render the care programme approach incapable of proper implementation. In this context, scope for people who want to seek redress against councils through judicial review in the courts for failure to provide adequate community care may be of major importance.

Community care services (as defined) will, under section 47 of the 1990 Act, become subject to a novel system of assessment. Local authorities must first assess need and then decide whether to provide particular services. Perhaps it is unfortunate that the very provider of such services must make the assessment of need and, for that reason, it is over the assessment

procedure that most of the legal issues will probably arise. Judicial review will clearly be available to correct detectable errors of law made by local authorities when assessing need. But several issues are likely to need clarifying by the High Court. Underpinning them all is the key question: does the 1990 Act have "teeth" so that services are provided for those in need or will it become a charter for evasion on the part of authorities which do not have the funds to afford such services?

There are several disquieting features of section 47 that make the evasion scenario a distinct possibility. First, entitlement to assessment is not defined. The local authority must carry out an assessment only where it "appears" to that authority that a person may be in need of community care services.

This raises the disturbing prospect that an authority may be able to avoid being required to assess need at all, save in circumstances where an application is made to it or where an instance of need is expressly brought to the authority's attention. But if this is so, the whole notion of local authority responsibility for vulnerable groups erodes to vanishing point because those in greatest need are often the last ones to articulate it.

A second point of concern about entitlement is that many community care services are tied to the legal, and somewhat artificial, notion of "ordinary residence". Does this mean that local authority "X", where a person is currently residing, can divest itself of legal responsibility for the provision of services by a bureaucratic twist of the head to local authority "Y", possibly hundreds of miles away? If so — and there is nothing in section 47 to dispel this fear — it



Left to rot — or will the homeless be helped by the new act? A vagrant sleeping on the chilly streets of central London, a common sight for visitors to the West End

dilutes still further the obviously immediate connection that there should be between need and a responsive provision of community care. Nothing in the 1990 Act sets out how assessment should be carried out. Subject to directions from the secretary of state, it is entirely at the authority's discretion. Although it seems clear that a local authority must assess an individual's need for

all community care services, this is undermined by the fact that the duty to provide services, like a statement of special educational needs, flows only from a decision about whether, in the light of its assessment, an individual's needs call for the provision by the authority of such services. Thus, if the authority decides to provide particular services, it is unlikely to be required to provide others.

Finally, there is nothing in the Act dealing with significant practical issues, such as how quickly a decision must be reached, or whether reasons must be given for a particular assessment or service provision decision. Without the resources to cope, local authorities will be placed in an invidious position when it comes to allocating community care services according to uncircumscribed dis-

cretionary powers as from April 1. However, an Act as vaguely and sloppily drafted as the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 merely transfers responsibility to the courts.

This has happened in other cases, most notably housing, which then become an increasing burden on the High Court to the detriment of administrative law generally. Tiger or toothless wonder? Only time will tell. The omens for an orderly and rational implementation of the much-heralded care programme approach are, however, not good.

● The author is a practising barrister specialising in judicial review. His new book, *Community Care Assessment: A Practical Legal Framework*, will be published by Longman next month.

# Time to spare the child

After more than 300 years of protest and debate, the law on corporal punishment still appears confused

The recent court decisions on whackings at home and at school have reawakened the long legal debate on corporal punishment. As long ago as 1669 a "Children's Petition" was presented to Parliament, complaining of the school practice whereby "our secret parts, which are by nature shameful, and not to be uncovered, must be the avowed eyes and filthy blows of the smiter".

Their 18th-century counterparts might have thought that they were making progress when, in *R v Hopley* (1860), it was held that lawful parental chastisement must be "moderate and reasonable". Sadly, the actual decision would have seemed less of an advance.

A school teacher wrote to a boy's father asking whether he could chastise him severely, "that if necessary he should do it again and again" and "continue it at intervals even if he held out for hours".

Father assented to this and when the "thirteen or fourteen year-old" later died as a result of the ensuing assault — a secret two-hour, night-time flogging with a thick stick, which led to a manslaughter conviction — the court held that the parental authority actually granted had not been excessive.

Now, the European Court of Human Rights has held (by five votes to four) that the corporal punishment inflicted

on Jeremy Costello-Roberts as a seven-year-old in a private boarding school did not breach the Convention on Human Rights.

Article 3 states that "no-one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment". Jeremy, who had "talked in the corridor" and had been "a little late for bed", was told on a Friday that he would be slipped on the following Monday, when the head master hit him on the bottom, three times, right through his shorts, with a gym slipper. It seems that in this the European Court is at odds with the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe which, in 1985, hoped member states would "review their legislation on the power to punish children in order to... prohibit corporal punishment". Last year, the Scottish Law Commission recommended that it should become civilly and criminally illegal for a parent to hit a child with an implement, or to cause pain or discomfort lasting more

than a very short time. The net effect is that the use of implements would always be illegal, as would hitting by hand — other than when it involves a light smack.

So who can still hit children here, and how hard? (Always reluctantly, of course, and with the child's welfare uppermost in their minds.) The answer, mainly from the Children Act 1989, is those imbued with legal "parental responsibility". These are mother and father of the marital child, but the mother only of the non-marital child. Delegation is permitted: this would seem to be the only way in which a man could lawfully hit his partner's children from an earlier relationship, unless he is named with her in a residence order under the act, probably following her divorce from the father. Permission would also be needed by an unmarried father, either *ad hoc* or by way of the all-embracing "parental responsibility agreement". This idea of delegation lies at the heart of the Costello-

Roberts decision, where the attack took place at a private school. Hitting at other schools was finally outlawed in Britain by the Education Reform Act 1988 — about 300 years after Poland. Corporal punishment is banned in community homes by regulations made under the Children Act.

As regards severity, a domestic case, reported a few days before the European decision, legitimated a paternal strapping which produced bruising, visible to a gymnastics teacher, several days afterwards.

In 1984, two Welsh brothers, Steven and Christopher Jarman, were taken into care when their mother was prosecuted for school non-attendance: the boys had been suspended because, following a caning given to Christopher, she had refused to retract a written statement declaring her opposition to corporal punishment.

The following year, the *Sutton Coldfield Observer* reported a local councillor as saying, "Corporal punishment never hurt anyone". Legal, and other, attitudes have changed a little since then, but it is an odd system that permits protesting children to be assaulted — yet imprisons consenting adults for it.

CHRIS BARTON

● The author is a principal lecturer in law at Staffordshire University.



Dickens's view of the cane after visiting Bowes Academy in 1838: "Touch him at your peril," warned Nicholas Nickleby

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## Going to work on an Eggbert

**BY DAVID THURLOW**

**"I think it only fair to let you know that your rival for the contract gave me one of these"**

Mr Bowtner, now 44, and his wife, Angela, a secretary, sold their bungalow in Nottingham and bought a maisonette at the back of the harbour in the artists' colony. They worked from their back



year, they were doing better and opened a shop on the harbour. The cottages went well and he started making humorous and inexpensive gifts such as hedgehogs.

It was at that stage that he saw the seagulls. The first Eggbert was a chicken in its shell. With the second one, he had a chicken head popping out of a golf ball. Everything clicked into place and the golf ball has been used ever since.

In two years, they were selling

everything they could make and the cottage sales had quadrupled. They were employing two people but the demand for the birds had far overtaken the number they could make. They decided to get someone else to do the manufacturing and distribution under licence. Cavalcade, a Scots company, now makes the Eggberts for the British and American markets. A giftware company, Enesco, does the same for other markets.

☐ Edwina Hughes, who runs the Eddy counselling service for small businesses, starts a series of free seminars with one at Teddington, London, tomorrow afternoon. Telephone: 081 977 8254.

EDITOR DEREK HARRIS

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**DANCE page 30**  
Kim Brandstrup: the Danish choreographer on how his company interprets Hamlet

# ARTS

**CINEMA page 31**  
Greta Garbo, one of the stars who gave silent films a power that has survived long neglect

## THEATRE: Nigel Hawkes meets Tom Stoppard, whose new play *Arcadia* celebrates scientific ideas

# Plotting the course of a playwright

In a country house in Derbyshire, around 1810, a bright young girl stumbles on a discovery capable of revolutionising the way we look at the world. Chaos theory is born, makes a brief and unacknowledged bow, and is then forgotten again for 160 years.

Tom Stoppard's new play *Arcadia*, which opens at the National Theatre tonight, celebrates scientific ideas in a way which is unusual, if not unique, in British theatre. Stoppard has always pursued ideas like a boar after truffles, but seldom has he discovered such a rewarding hoard as he does in this play.

Chaos theory, entropy, the arrow of time, the second law of thermodynamics, population biology and Newcomen's Improved Steam Pump all have their moments as Stoppard explores the differences between the Classical and the Romantic imagination. The play shifts to and fro between 1810 and the modern day, creating a counterpoint against which he sets a story of literary detection and scientific discovery.

Stoppard's mind began to work when he read James Gleick's book *Chaos*, and saw that it might serve as a metaphor for a play about the antithesis between the Romantic and the Classical. Chaos theory in this respect represents the overthrow of determinism, the idea that nature behaves like a giant piece of clockwork whose functioning, once understood, can be perfectly predicted in advance.

Chaos tells us that the world is not like that: even the motions of the planets, the most metronomic of natural phenomena, may ultimately be unpredictable.

The equations that represent chaos are simple in form, but complex to work out, and had to wait for the arrival of the calculator and the computer. In *Arcadia* they are discovered by Thomasina Coverly, a precocious and spirited girl who gets as far as she can with pen and paper. In the background as she works, the estate is being transformed to the sound of Newcomen's steam pump from the Classical calm of Capability Brown into a picturesque landscape of grotesque, gloomy woods and a tumbling-down hermitage.

Tom Stoppard thus interweaves chaos theory with the rise of the Romantic movement. It is the play, then, an attempt to rewrite cultural history by suggesting that chaos theory ought to have been born at the same time as the Gothic novel? Stoppard disavows the idea.

"It isn't as tidy as that," he says. "In painting, literature, landscape gardening, these changes all happened sequentially. Over a hundred years, 1730 to 1830, they all seemed to go through that change, though not necessarily in concert with each other. I'm not really saying there was ever such a thing as Classical mathematics, and one doesn't talk about there being a Romantic phase in mathematics either. I think what one is really doing is taking advantage of one's enthusiasms."

Those enthusiasms include a pretty extensive reading of scientific books. "I have done a fair amount, but never in a spi-



Tom Stoppard outside the National Theatre: "Science plays about as small a part in the theatre as it does in the lives of most non-scientists."

rit of dogged duty. I start thinking about a play because of the reading I've been doing, and then I do a lot more of it because of the play I've been thinking about. So it's circular, really. I do it entirely for stimulation and pleasure and ultimately I suppose I get a bit deeper into it, so that I know what's behind what I'm writing about."

A play, he says, cannot go into these subjects in any depth when compared with a book. Actually, *Arcadia* does succeed in conveying not only a lot of scientific ideas, but more unusually, something of the spirit behind them. For the average playgoer, I suggested, perhaps it goes about as far as one could get away with? "Well, even further..." admits Stoppard with a laugh.

"But I don't think any audience is homogeneous, in any theatre, for any play. So you're always really skirting the possibility of leaving some of your audience out of it. On the whole one tries not to. I mean, there are certain things that are deliberately there as a private language, and not just in this play. Talking to you as a journalist I can say that in a play I wrote about journalism there were phrases that only a journalist would have understood. But it gives a sense of authenticity and is understood by the few people in the audience who'd be familiar with that kind of thing. You hope that the overall narrative

is strong enough to take people through to the main stations."

*Arcadia* doesn't give science all the best tunes. The character Bernard Nightingale, a literary don on the make, rounds splendidly on it. "Don't confuse progress with perfectibility," he says. "A great poet is always timely. A great philosopher is an urgent need. There's no rush for Isaac Newton. We were quite happy with Aristotle's cosmos. Personally, I preferred it. Fifty-five crystal spheres, all geared to God's crankshaft, is my idea of a satisfying universe."

This is not, however, Stoppard's own idea of science. "Bernard's polemic does not speak for me, no. It is a kind of performance art, anyway, the kind of speech that that man would make to a scientist, out of a sort of overflow of energy and mischief. I suppose that in theory I'd be capable of abolishing Bernard. I mean inventing a rival polemic."

In the play, that task falls to the earnest young scientist Valentine Coverly, studying the population dynamics of grouse with the aid of the estate's game books. "We're better at predicting events on the edge of the galaxy or inside the nucleus of an atom than whether it'll rain on auntie's garden party three weeks from now," he says. "The future is disorder. A door like this has cracked open five or six times since we got up on our hind

legs. It's the best possible time to be alive, when almost everything you thought you knew is wrong."

It is this speech, not Bernard's, that strikes a chord with Stoppard. But he's anxious to insist that this isn't a play about science, or a play for scientists. "It's a play that just comes off that slice of the culture, and science is a large slice of our culture. There's nothing odd about the arts feeding off it, even though science plays about as small a part in the theatre as it does in the lives of most non-scientists."

Nor is the play's purpose didactic. "It all sounds rather as if I've got a policy on these things, which of course I haven't," Stoppard says. "I was jolly grateful to have an idea for a play, whatever it's about."

He sees anti-scientific sentiments as nothing new. "In any age, including the period around the year 1800, we had a kind of reaction against scientism by the poets of the time, so you find that Blake and Wordsworth and Coleridge as young men are resisting the thinking of that time that science was rapidly finding out all the answers, and would solve all the mysteries. The sense, or illusion, that science is doing exactly that seems to accompany every age, and creates an opposing force."

Last week Stoppard was trimming and tuning. Constructed as intricately as Aristotle's universe, *Arcadia* is not the easiest play to modify, but the first performances ran ten minutes over three hours. "You try to write it in a way that makes it impossible to leave anything out, or you haven't written it properly," he

stands the part science plays in that culture, and brave enough to write a play around it. And, by the way, there are plenty of good jokes in it.

● *Arcadia* opens tonight at the Lyttelton, National Theatre, London SE1 (071-928 2252)

Leading article, page 15

### TOM STOPPARD'S SCIENCE: A PLAYGOER'S GUIDE

**Chaos**  
● Classical physics describes an orderly world. Know enough and you can predict the future. The failure of prediction — as in weather forecasting — has always been blamed on having insufficient data, but chaos theory tells us it is something more interesting than that. Natural systems like the weather, a dripping tap, or a rising column of cigarette smoke, though determined by equations we understand, behave in ways we cannot predict. Complex patterns can be created by simple equations. The greater part of nature, it now appears, follows these chaotic rules: relativity and quantum theory, as Stoppard puts in *Arcadia*, can explain only the very big or the very small, the universe or the elementary particles. What is left — and that is most things — "is as mysterious to us as the heavens were to the Greeks".

**Thermodynamics**  
● In the long run, Keynes advised us we are all dead. But he had been long anticipated by the German physicist, Hermann von Helmholtz, who declared that the entire universe was tending towards extinction. This is a consequence of the second law of Thermodynamics, which teaches that heat can flow in only one direction, from hotter to colder. A cup of tea gets colder, never hotter; and so, on an infinitely greater scale, does the universe.

**The Arrow of Time**  
● The second law, unlike Newton's laws of motion, does not work backwards as well as forwards. In 1811 Baron Jean-Joseph Fourier anticipated the law in his description of the flow of heat in solids. The fact that heat cannot flow from a colder to a hotter gives time a direction, and tells us that it cannot run backwards. Time's arrow can fly in only one direction, like Fourier's equations.

**Fermat's Last Theorem**  
● In the margin of his copy of the *Arithmetica* of Diophantus, the French mathematician Pierre de Fermat scribbled a theorem which, he said, could be shown to be true had he space enough to prove it. Fermat asserted that there are no natural numbers  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  and  $n$ , such that when  $n$  is greater than 2,  $x^n + y^n = z^n$ . The power of  $n$  plus  $y$  to the power of  $n$  is  $z$  to the power of  $n$ . More than 300 years later, a proof is still awaited.

**Newcomen's Steam Pump**  
● Thomas Newcomen invented his steam pump around 1712. A century later, at the period in which *Arcadia* is set, it had been greatly improved by Cornishman Richard Trevithick and was at work in increasing numbers pumping out the mines. It was also used in rolling iron, grinding corn and milling sugar; and, if Stoppard is to be believed, in reconstructing the scenery in English gardens.

## Kubrick's rubric of silence kept up

MOST film companies like to crow from the rooftops when they have an exciting new project on their schedules. But not if the director is the super-reclusive Stanley Kubrick. Warner Brothers is keeping infuriatingly tight-lipped about Kubrick's first venture since *Full Metal Jacket* in 1987. According to trade press reports, his new film is set in eastern Europe after communism's collapse and features a boy and a young woman as central characters. The script is based on a book, but it is not known which. As for players, the boy has been earmarked for Joseph Mazzello; the woman remains a matter for speculation. Shooting might begin this summer in Bratislava.

**Here he goes**  
UNDERCOVER policeman infiltrates gang of British football hooligans, only to find

### ARTS BRIEFING

himself trapped, unable to break cover. Sounds like a film? Vincent O'Connell, for one, is hoping it will be. His script on the subject, *No-one Likes Us*, has just won the first UK Screenwriter's Prize, awarded annually by the British Film Institute, British Screen and the European Script Fund for the best feature-length screenplay. O'Connell's entry will now go forward, along with four runners-up, to compete in the European script competition Les Euro-Scripts D'Ore. The overall winner will receive a cash award at the Cannes Film Festival next month. The prize comes with no guarantee of production, though help will be given.



Stanley Kubrick keeping his new project a secret

● ONE of the more unlikely marriages of true minds has been consummated. The Society for the Promotion of New Music — known mostly for championing difficult modern music in small venues — has begun sponsoring a programme on Classic FM, the cheerily populist classical-music radio station. As part of

its 50th anniversary celebrations, the SPNM is backing Sunday evening's *Contemporary Classics*. "We feel it complements our work in promoting new composers," says Richard Steele, the SPNM's executive director.

### Last chance...

BARRY Manilow's gift for making his fans feel good about feeling bad is convincingly applied on his current "Greatest Hits And More" world tour. In a two-hour *tour de force*, the king of the middle of the road pulls out all the stops with a bravura display of vocal dexterity, showmanship and no little wit. The month-long British leg of the tour ends this week with dates at the SECC, Glasgow (041-248 3000) tomorrow; West Point Pavilion, Exeter (0392 446000) Friday; and Wembley Arena (081-900 1234) Saturday.

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# Saying it all with silence

A new generation of cinemagoers is eager to rediscover the excitement of the silent film experience. David Robinson reports

According to the pioneer film critic Richard Griffiths, "The silent film at its best had by 1928 attained singular completeness as a human experience." To walk into a darkened theatre, to focus upon a bright rectangle of moving light, to listen somewhat below the level of consciousness to music which was no longer good or bad in itself but merely in relation to what was on the screen... this was an experience complete and unique. It bade fair to become the characteristic art-experience of our time.

Instead, for more than half a century after the coming of talkies, both the art and the sensation of silent cinema were totally forgotten. Never perhaps, before or since in the history of art, has an autonomous and marvellous medium been extinguished in this way.

Now, however, after the long darkness, the Nineties audiences appear ready and eager to rediscover the silent film experience. Time was when the National Film Theatre only presented silents as an act of faith, for a tiny coterie of eccentric enthusiasts.

Last month, however, the NFT had selected houses for the 90-year-old fantasy films of Georges Méliès, while next door the Queen Elizabeth Hall offered a festival of orchestral accompaniments to silent films. The April NFT programme offers a still richer variety of silents. There is more Méliès and a commemoration of the centenary of Mary Pickford, "the World's Sweetheart" (and notes the NFT programme) "the first woman, bar a courtesan or two, to become a millionaire by her own efforts". The Museum of the Moving Image includes three old warhorses of German Expressionism which never disappoint. *The*

*Cabinet of Dr Caligari, The Last Laugh and Metropolis.*

Three programmes of the precocious early Scandinavian cinema illustrate the appealing Danish preoccupation with circuses (*The Four Devils*) and prostitution (*The White Slave Trade II*). The newly restored *Night Music* is a chance to see the work of Georg af Klercker, a Swedish director whose brief, prolific career was practically expunged from history. Forty years after his death his genius was finally recognised with the 1992 Ingmar Bergman prize for life achievement; Bergman calls *Night Music* "cinematography on its highest level".

The major NFT event however is a three-month season entitled "The Rich Language of Silence". Drawn from America, France, Russia, Germany, Britain and Japan, the

films are selected for their common quality of displaying silent cinema at its most expressive. This was above all a universal language which could speak to people of every tongue and bring universal fame to those such as Chaplin, Gish or Garbo, with the gift to explore and express fundamental human passions and feelings.

"We didn't need voices. We had faces then," says Norma Desmond, the old silent star in *Sunset Boulevard*. The NFT will show us some of the faces: Dietrich who tried to pretend she did not go back that far; Louise Brooks, Norma Shearer, Lillian Gish, Gloria Swanson and of course Garbo, who brings her tragic aura to *The Kiss*, an unsparing melodrama in shimmering Art Deco sets.

The art was truly international. At Hollywood's well-named Universal studios, a German director, Paul Leni, and a German star, Conrad Veidt, turn Victor Hugo's *The Man Who Laughs* into an authentic German Expressionist horror film. In the eeriest of all his roles, Veidt plays a man who has suffered the medieval punishment of having his face twisted into an immovable smile.

On the lighter side there is Henri d'Abbadie d'Arrast's elegant American satire *A Gentleman of Paris*, starring the inimitable Adolphe Menjou.

Later instalments will demonstrate silent cinema as political agitation in the works of the great Soviet directors; and show how artists like Hitchcock, Hawks, Re-



*Pandora's Box*, G.W. Pabst's 1929 classic, with Louise Brooks: silent cinema at its most expressive was a universal language which spoke to people of every tongue

noir. Vidor, Ozu and Sternberg learned their craft in the silents.

In the lost years between the 1920s and the 1980s, people even forgot how silent films were and should be presented — above all that, from the very first, live musical accompaniments were an integral and expected part of the silent film experience. In this sense the film was an interpretative art. Paul Hindemith, no less, wrote, "It is known that film is hardly bearable without music. Therefore every film should be arranged together with a musician. A musician who knows how to be submissive towards the film, where necessary, but also

knows where the film should accompany the music."

This quotation comes from a valuable new English-language book, *Silent Cinema Music*, by the Dutch musicologist Theodore Van Houten (Frits Knuf Publishers, Buren). It provides a rich collection of recollections by old-time musicians about the trials of the cinema musical director, who would be given a couple of days and one viewing of the film to create a full accompaniment for symphonic orchestra.

Inevitably the scores were compiled from existing works; and a well-equipped musical director

would maintain a library of several thousand works ranging from Bach to Albert Ketelby, who was a particularly prolific and popular supplier of cinema music.

Historians often deride such cinema music compilations as tasteless pot-pourris of popular classics; on the contrary, many cinema musical directors and performers were men of real musical culture. (In Paris classical concerts were at the weekends, so the best symphonic players spent their weekdays in the cinema orchestras). Before the radio and gramophone had broadened popular musical culture, many people received their

musical education in the cinemas. Van Houten lists the whole impressive repertoire of a typical library, and quotes the man who formed it. Ido Eyl: "Film illustration was a matter of vision, psychology, feeling for drama, and of great knowledge of the repertoire of several thousands of orchestral works."

Film-makers and film musicians knew their business, and the opportunity for new acquaintance with their works only inspires awe for their achievements.

Programme details from the National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3232)

CONCERTS: David Matthews at 50; Mozart, Strauss and Brahms from the Philharmonia; Beethoven in words and music

## Variations on a birthday theme

One of the joys of being a composer is that you can celebrate your birthday in style. For the fiftieth birthday of David Matthews, the pianist William Howard gathered a group of friends and colleagues to perform a sequence of Matthews's own works, with a series of more or less light-hearted tributes from fellow composers thrown in.

The surprise items were a delightful set of seven short pieces each characteristic of its composer and admirably avoiding the predictable. Judith Weir's *El Rey de Francia*, based on a 15th-century Sephardic melody from Spain, was a typically inventive working of simple materials, while Robin Holloway's *Berceuse with Burlesque* hankered nostalgically after a bygone era. The pieces by Berthold Goldschmidt, Anthony Powers and Hugh Wood each played with the number 50 in different ways. Peter Sculthorpe's contribution, *Postcard from Nourlangie*, to Clapham Common, amusing-

ly introduced some animal and insect noises over a less exotic background texture. Howard Skempton's *Party Piece* was aphoristic, jazzy and great fun. All, with the exception of the Goldschmidt, were for piano quartet and were played by the Schubert Ensemble of London.

The oldest of Matthews's own works performed here was the Concertino of 1986-7. A musical representation of Titian's painting *The Flaying of Marsyas*, it solves the problem of incorporating two treble instruments (violin and oboe) into a quintet ensemble by treating them as antagonists. Melinda Maxwell's oboe stood for the aulos played by Marsyas, while Jacqueline Shaw's violin was the instrument of Apollo. Other members of the Brindisi Quartet filled out the picture.



David Matthews: celebrating his 50th birthday in style

The other Matthews work of particular interest was *Long Lion Days*, given an eloquent performance — its first in London — by Jane Salmon and William Howard. The title is taken from a late poem of Philip Larkin's, and the music moves from an evocation of the poet's "white haze"

to a glowing, confident climax. The three works given in the first half — the String Trio, Op 48, the Piano Sonata, Op 47 and the String Quartet No 6 — were more typical of Matthews's laudatory English pastoralism.

BARRY MILLINGTON

## Strong winds

Two late changes in Giuseppe Sinopoli's programme for his weekend concert with the Philharmonia left James Galway and Mozart the only elements remaining from what was first announced. That at any rate was cause for approbation, as the audience evidently felt when applause broke in after each movement of Mozart's Flute Concerto No 1 (K 313).

It was a performance of intriguing musical character as well as virtuosity, with the excursions out of G major into minor keys undertaken with due deliberation in a first movement given firm shape and emphasis. Then after a slow movement where the soloist's long line was a marvel of breath control, Galway glided in the finale with a galanterie that almost flirted with the notes.

Save for a momentary disagreement over tempo that had Galway virtually conducting with the flute to his lips, Sinopoli afforded him much pristine orchestral support, not least in blending in the orchestral flutes in the central adagio, for whom Galway had a special cheery wave at the end.

Philharmonia/  
Sinopoli  
Festival Hall

The woodwind and horns were also prominently deployed in the *Don Juan* by Richard Strauss that opened the programme. Each episode of this narrative tone-poem was played for its immediately present worth, without being related to what went before or what came after. It meant an episodic progress, but the conductor galvanised a splendidly vivid response from the orchestra.

A discarded Schoenberg in the second part was replaced by Brahms, whose Fourth Symphony has seldom sounded so martial, indeed militaristic. Even the peaceable andante was required to move with metrical rigidity. This was followed not by a festive dance but an aggressive march, leading to a finale where the variations sounded protesting, as if they had been put behind bars other than those in the score.

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I can imagine few more irritating ways of attempting to acquaint a new public with the music and personality of a composer than that adopted by the Medici Quartet in this series. The formula is as follows.

First, take one famous actor to play your composer. In this case it was to be John Thaw, but in the event a poorly prepared Brian Cox stepped in late to star in the role of Beethoven.

Then, for a script, give your actor some of the composer's letters, carefully selected to reflect the most miserable, melodramatic, lovelorn moods, but garnished with a smattering of the commonplace, just to prove that he was, after all, only a human being. That role was partly filled here with those chunks of the epistles to Carl which refer to underclothes and not catching cold and being sensibly scruffy about the house and so on.

Finally, intersperse between these readings individual

## Return to sender

Medici Quartet  
Queen Elizabeth Hall



Brian Cox delivering Beethoven's letters

movements from as wide a variety of works as possible. If words and music are unusually sentimental or tragic, have them sound simultaneously; otherwise feel free to allow overlapping.

What is wrong with such user-friendly presentation? Actually, at least four rather fundamental things. First, it gives a distorted, simplistic view of the composer's personality. Second, it equates particular details of biography, at best a speculative exercise. Third, it gives the music inappropriate and inadequate "hanging space", since the audience has no idea of the context of any single movement (or piece of a movement). Fourth, it makes

the music seem like something outside of us, an expression of one soul's torments that we ought to revere, rather than something which actually reflects common experience.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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St. Michael's Pp	31	...	...	0.6	2.4	2
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Procter & Gamble	83	- 1	2.0	3.0
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	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Carbide	130	-1	1.0	4.0	5.6
Carbide & Fisher	130	0	1.0	4.0	5.6
1980	130	0	1.0	4.0	5.6

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
10 Tent	471	-12	12.6	3.3	15.1
10 Tent (A)	56	-6	4.7	—	10.9
10 Cap	28	—	—	—	12.7
10 Tent (B)	85	8.5	—	—	—
10 Tent	130	-2	1.4	1.3	—
10 Tent	—	—	0.4	2.5	—
10 Tent	130	—	2.2	2.8	—
10 Tent	369	-8	13.0	10.0	15.6
10 Tent	31	-3	—	—	—
10 Tent	130	—	9.0	—	22.7
10 Tent	21	—	1.5	—	2.7
10 Tent	27	—	—	—	—
10 Tent	27	-2	—	—	6.7
10 Tent	—	—	0.5	3.1	—
10 Tent	85	-2	2.2	2.1	—
10 Tent	130	+1	3.4	2.6	14.1
10 Tent	—	—	1.0	—	—
10 Tent	308	—	12.0	—	—
10 Tent	422	-2	2.2	—	20.3

Portland 'A'	96	...	20	26	...
Reaction	91	-	34	47	18
SEET	42	...	...	...	...
End	...	...	...	...	...

Mad 'A'	96	...	2.0	2.6	
Car	91	...	3.4	4.7	18.1
...	50	...	...	...	...
Op	85	...	5.1	7.6	14.9
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Card	44	...	2.6	7.5	11.7
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Production	301	...	4.1	11.5	26.0
...	...	...	...	...	...
Transport	303	...	3.7	3.5	16.6

TOBACCOS					
...	887	1	-40%	5.2	19.2
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TRANSPORT					
...	383	-2	6.5	2.8	
...	787	-28	14.5	2.3	12.6
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Age	Sex	...	45	44	...
OM Steam	156	+1	...	6.4	2.3
Scuba (UT)	27	+1	0.5	2.3	...
OM Steam Pro	69	+2	1.3	2.3	4.5

Water	546	+	19.3	6.4	9.0
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1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl a) and *Chlorophyll b* (Chl b) are the two main photosynthetic pigments in green plants. They are responsible for capturing light energy and converting it into chemical energy through the process of photosynthesis. Chl a is the primary pigment, while Chl b acts as an accessory pigment, transferring energy to Chl a.

1.27	Howard Hodge	17	-	0.5	8.7	100
133.78	Harold Johnson	57	-2	6.0	9.0	100
4.35		17 $\frac{1}{2}$	-4	0.5		
102.10	Laird (L)	224 $\frac{1}{2}$	+4	9.0	4.9	"
5.61	Loi Crispidea	62	+1	4.5	9.1	23.3
16.00	Lowell (L)	39				91.3
108.30	Meanders	292	-11	9.0	3.9	17.9
367.93	Mealey	136 $\frac{1}{2}$	+6	4.2	4.9	"
82.30	Memphis (M)	68	-3			22.8
30.50	Messersmith	124 $\frac{1}{2}$		4.9	5.0	114
10.20	McAlpine (A)	163	+4	6.5	5.0	26.2
22.80	McCarthy & S	32 $\frac{1}{2}$		0.5	6.1	

Company	Price	Change	Volume	Open	High	Low	Close	Adj. Close
20.70 Farnham	18	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
14.70 Farnham Tech	14	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
11.30 Farnham G/A	11	-8	...	...	...	...	...	22.0
5.78 Farnham Tech	17	-2	...	...	...	...	...	1.7
8.70-9.00 GSC	22 1/2	+ 5/8	9.6	17	17 1/2	...	...	...
104.40 Gumbey	160 1/2	- 2	10.9	83	...	...	...	...
1.46 Hildreth	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.7
45.30 Hotham Gp	...	...	2.4	0.6	...	...	...	50.9
4.59 Hotham A	102	- 1	...	3.9	...	...	...	...
68.80 James Street	378	...	8.0	2.6	...	...	...	16.5
2.57 Kewbury	9	...	0.3	5.2	...	...	...	...
11.70 Kennard App	307	- 7	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
16.80 Kewell Syst	138	- 2	...	...	...	...	...	6.9

177.00	Stacy (Wing)	252	-9	8.9	4.4	...
180.00	Barlow Rand	600	...	...	8.3	3.1
180.00	Barnes (P)	7	...	2.0	...	16.2
92.10	Barnes (Charles)	60	-1	1.4	3.0	...
4.90	Beckford	...	...	1.8	...	...
7.90	Beckwith	8	...	...	7.4	...
1.40	Bedford (W)	30	-2	...	...	...
26.20	Benson Group	20	-2	8.1	0.6	...
170.90	Bespa	600	-23	9.0	1.7	21.1
126.70	Bibby (J)	113	-6	9.7	11.5	6.2
3.40	Bibby	210	...	5.0	3.0	...
2.44	Bilman Bostera	29	-2	...	...	...
9.65	Bisbee Ind	8	...	0.6	...	...

Fourer Candidates	21	+1	2.5	14.9	5.2	15.30
24 Porini Gps						130.30
40 Powerseam	356	-6	6.0	2.1	26.1	89.30
23 Prospect Units	17	...	0.7	5.4	6.8	262.50
24 JPS Group	85	...	...	5.2	11.7	408.10
Random Heat	15	...	...	...	...	7.00
30 Ranch Ole	119	-8	...	2.5	78.5	36.50
60 Ranch Ole	1	-1	31.0	5.6	16.3	1.35
20 Random	26	...	...	...	...	13.20
20 Rockhill Court	607	-8	...	3.3	26.4	0.57
30 Record	7	...	3.6	6.1	39.2	253.50
18 Rence	3	...	...	...	11.4	347.40
20 Richey	149	7	...	4.0	4.1	166.10

... after	712	1	...	4.0	43	...	45.30	Info
... on December	174	-2	18.2	4.0	28.7	...	295.40	Adm
... on	170	-1	...	3.5	12.0	...	7.55	New
... on	227	3	10.6	5.6	...	...	16.20	Wch
... on	450.2	-159	...	...	...	...	304.30	GR S
... on	36	8	6.7	1.1	53.4	...	...	...
... on	123	+1	...	4.7	34.3	...	53.10	...
... on	36	...	...	...	...	...	140.40	Pross
... on	44	...	0.1	0.5	...	...	20.20	...
... on	9	...	...	...	...	...	305.20	...
... on	302	-2	...	4.4	39.8	...	31,600.0	Boys
... on	289	+4	11.4	4.9	26.1	...	10,325.40	Schm
... on	295	-7	4.5	1.7	63.8	...	33.40	...

Resa	22	...	...	...	...	1,784.00	Thir
Peri	40,	- 1%	...	...	...	575.00	Wet
Aden	32	...	...	...	...	70,650	Wom
Asen	91	- 1	1.8	3.9	11.1	1,164.00	York
rch	34	...	...	...	...		
	17,	...	...	...	...		
	103	...	...	...	...	14.3	
	22	...	...	...	...	9.5	
	83	...	...	...	...		
	...	...	...	...	...	7.8	
	310	...	...	...	...	5.4	
ch	5930	...	...	...	...	...	
berger	...	...	...	...	...	1.9	
	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Water	556	+7	19.2	4.3	10.5
Water	607	+4	21.4	4.4	7.0
Water	641	+6	..	3.8	8.7
re W	598	+8	19.5	4.1	9.6

**Your best investment**  
**in the overnight market.**

If you're not satisfied when you stay on business in a Forté Crest, we'll pay for your next night with us. Call 0800 40 40 40, or your travel agent.

Company	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404</
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any bond	1944	-2	3	2.6	...	817.00 Alliance	1021	-7	45.0	1.5
any bond	279	-5	13.0	5.8	...	190.00 Amer Trust	240	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (A)	108	-6	23.0	6.5	26.9	261.00 Am O Grains	734	-3	6.8	2.6
any bond (B)	118	-6	23.0	6.5	26.9	107.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (C)	118	-6	23.0	6.5	26.9	231.00 Bonded	194	-2	2.4	2.0
any bond (D)	229	-3	10.5	4.7	...	141.00 Bonding Trst	225	-2	6.4	2.0
any bond (E)	134	-2	5.9	5.5	6.9	7.99 Berry Thine	142	-1	2.0	1.8
any bond (F)	134	-2	5.9	5.5	6.9	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (G)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (H)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (I)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (J)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (K)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (L)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (M)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (N)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (O)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (P)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (Q)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (R)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (S)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (T)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (U)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (V)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (W)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (X)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (Y)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6
any bond (Z)	151	-4	4.3	4.3	13.3	265.00 Bt Int	107	-3	4.9	2.6

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100																																																																																																								
Age	0-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85-94	95-104	105-114	115-124	125-134	135-144	145-154	155-164	165-174	175-184	185-194	195-204	205-214	215-224	225-234	235-244	245-254	255-264	265-274	275-284	285-294	295-304	305-314	315-324	325-334	335-344	345-354	355-364	365-374	375-384	385-394	395-404	405-414	415-424	425-434	435-444	445-454	455-464	465-474	475-484	485-494	495-504	505-514	515-524	525-534	535-544	545-554	555-564	565-574	575-584	585-594	595-604	605-614	615-624	625-634	635-644	645-654	655-664	665-674	675-684	685-694	695-704	705-714	715-724	725-734	735-744	745-754	755-764	765-774	775-784	785-794	795-804	805-814	815-824	825-834	835-844	845-854	855-864	865-874	875-884	885-894	895-904	905-914	915-924	925-934	935-944	945-954	955-964	965-974	975-984	985-994	995-1004	1005-1014	1015-1024	1025-1034	1035-1044	1045-1054	1055-1064	1065-1074	1075-1084	1085-1094	1095-1104	1105-1114	1115-1124	1125-1134	1135-1144	1145-1154	1155-1164	1165-1174	1175-1184	1185-1194	1195-1204	1205-1214	1215-1224	1225-1234	1235-1244	1245-1254	1255-1264	1265-1274	1275-1284	1285-1294	1295-1304	1305-1314	1315-1324	1325-1334	1335-1344	1345-1354	1355-1364	1365-1374	1375-1384	1385-1394	1395-1404	1405-1414	1415-1424	1425-1434	1435-1444	1445-1454	1455-1464	1465-1474	1475-1484	1485-1494	1495-1504	1505-1514	1515-1524	1525-1534	1535-1544	1545-1554	1555-1564	1565-1574	1575-1584	1585-1594	1595-1604	1605-1614	1615-1624	1625-1634	1635-1644	1645-1654	1655-1664	1665-1674	1675-1684	1685-1694	1695-1704	1705-1714	1715-1724	1725-1734	1735-1744	1745-1754	1755-1764	1765-1774	1775-1784	1785-1794	1795-1804	1805-1814	1815-1824	1825-1834	1835-1844	1845-1854	1855-1864	1865-1874	1875-1884	1885-1894	1895-1904	1905-1914	1915-1924	1925-1934	1935-1944	1945-1954	1955-1964	1965-1974	1975-1984	1985-1994	1995-2004	2005-2014	2015-2024	2025-2034	2035-2044	2045-2054	2055-2064	2065-2074	2075-2084	2085-2094	2095-2104	2105-2114	2115-2124	212

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Water	641	+6	..	3.8	8.7
re W	598	+8	19.5	4.1	9.6

SECRET

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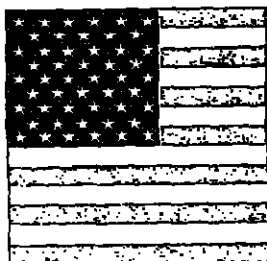


**Always read the label**



## BUSINESS TODAY

### RALLYING



Shares opened strongly on Wall Street supported by a strong bond market. Advances led declines by 2-to-1  
Page 33

### LISTING

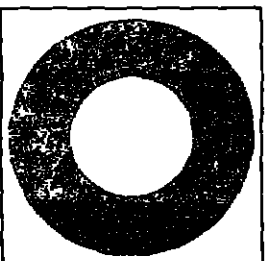
Scotland's largest electrical retailer plans a stock market listing in early summer to finance more growth  
Page 33

### LOSING



Savoy's losses and troubles at Queens Moat make investors nervous about Forté results this week  
Tempos, page 34

### SLIPPING



Blue Circle investors are expecting to hear news of lower profits from their board  
Page 33

**THE POUND**  
US \$.....1.5258 (+0.0123)  
German mark 2.4542 (+0.0073)  
Exchange index.....80.1 (+0.21)

**STOCK MARKET**  
FT-SE 100.....2821.8 (-0.31)  
Dow Jones 3423.50 (+27.02)  
Nikkei Ave.....19882.14 (-10.04)

**INTEREST RATES**  
London Bank Base.....6%  
3-month Interbank.....5 1/2%  
US Federal Funds.....3 1/4%  
3-month T-bill.....2.90-2.95%  
Long Bond.....6.75%

**CURRENCIES**  
New York: London: £\$.....1.5258  
S.D.M. 1.5255 S.D.M. 2.4500  
S.W.M. 1.4615 S.W.M. 2.2597  
S.F.R. 5.3855 S.F.R. 8.3100  
S.Yen 112.74 S.Yen 172.80  
S.Doll 1.0601 S.Doll 1.2597  
London Foreign market close

**GOLD**  
London Fixing (5): PM 337.50  
AM 337.81 PM 337.50  
Close.....336.80-337.30  
New York: COMEX.....337.45-337.95

**RETAIL PRICES**  
RPI.....138.8 February (1.8%)  
\* Denotes midday trading price  
1 Denotes Thursday's close

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For many western investors, the case highlights the

work-ethic gulf between the west and former communist economies. The document conveying the ministry's approval of 100 per cent tax freedom was left lying unattended on a desk at the Wedel office.

The company first learned of the incredible oversight through a leak to a television station.

Some of the difficulties facing western investors in Poland arise from a political backlash against foreign control. Anti-foreigner sentiment played an important part in the parliament's rejection of the most recent privatisation package.

But troubles at Wedel, in which PepsiCo bought a 40 per cent stake two years ago, to be increased to 60 per cent

over five years, seem more related to the lax corporate ways that pervade both state and private sectors. Changing practices formed by decades of stifling state bureaucracy, clearly takes more than a little inward investment and a layer of smart managers.

PepsiCo's \$87 million investment in the Warsaw-listed Wedel brought it the unpleasant surprise of stock exchange regulation that hardly deserves the name, a registration system that means shareholders do not even know whether they are entitled to attend annual meetings and a privatisation ministry that issues key documents with serious omissions.

What is more, the Polish market is still growing.



Part of a team: David Little, who is leading the four-strong management group that aims to buy Leyland Daf's spares operation in Lancashire

## DAF chiefs to bid £100m for spares operation

By DEREK HARRIS

A MANAGEMENT buyout offer worth around £100 million for the profitable Leyland DAF spares operation at Chorley, Lancashire, is likely by the end of the month.

With a buyout of the van assembly plant in Birmingham close and plans for a management offer for the truck assembly plant in Leyland, Lancashire, well advanced, administrative receivers to the commercial vehicle assembler are now close to securing the survival of most of the business, although in a slimmed-down form.

But management ambitions could still be upset by Paccar, the American truckbuilder, two European lorry companies and Unipart, the former British Leyland spares company, which remain interested in parts of the business.

The impending sale agreements, whether with manage-

ment or outside bidders, should save more than 2,000 jobs and end wrangles between receivers and suppliers that have threatened efforts to rescue the British arm of the collapsed Anglo-Dutch DAF group. The receivers now appear confident they can maintain production until disposals are completed despite the refusal of Automotive Products, a key supplier, to resume deliveries of brakes and clutches.

31, the investment capital group, has already pledged its backing to the management buyout team at the van plant, and a price has been agreed, but not disclosed. 31 is optimistic that the deal will be concluded by the beginning of next week. A spokesman said yesterday: "Things are coming together nicely and we have made good progress. We are on course to conclude the deal by next Monday."

At the spares operation, discussions with a number of City institutions and venture capital providers are well advanced.

David Little, operations director at the spares business who is leading a buyout team of four, said: "We have kept a low profile until now because we wanted to be sure it was possible to get the financial building blocks in place for a bid. Our intention now is to make an offer by the end of this month."

The managers' bid is expected to be contested keenly. The biggest threat to them is Unipart, the car parts distributor, which has shown strong interest in what was once its sister operation within the former British Leyland motor group. Unipart, now highly successful, was itself a management buyout from British Leyland.

Another possible bidder is Paccar, the north American truck maker, which has shown interest primarily in bidding for the Leyland DAF trucks operation at Leyland. If Paccar bid successfully for the trucks there could be industrial logic in buying the spares division.

Unipart's interest is bound to encourage John Talbot and Murdoch McKillop, joint receivers from Arthur Andersen, the accountant, towards high price expectations.

The spares operation is a strong business. State-of-the-art spares warehousing, all highly automated, is located at a 26-acre site in which £22 million has been invested in recent years. The boast is that the half million sq ft of covered storage is one of the most modern warehouses of its kind in Europe.

Turnover has been running at about £140 million a year, counting inter-company trading. The business primarily supplies spares for the existing fleet of Leyland DAF vehicles on the road in Britain and abroad. There are about 230,000 trucks and vans in Britain and another 120,000 or more overseas.

Mr Little and his team have been holding discussions about expanding beyond the Leyland DAF base by increasing handling of other spares.

A relaunch of the Multipart brand, used in the past for truck and van spares when the business was part of the former British Leyland, is already on the way. This will spearhead the push into additional markets.

ing to construction companies of another £15 billion and further corporate lending for property to companies that are not part of the sector.

But the research suggests that the shortfall between asset values and debts should narrow as vacant buildings are let and values gradually improve.

St Quintin suggests the adoption of a secondary market in debt as one way of alleviating the problem of illiquidity. Dr Damesick points out that three of the 11 banks that are lenders to Canary Wharf are reported to be trying to sell on their loans, at discounts that value the debt at less than 10p in the pound.

Peter Damesick, St Quintin's director of research, believes institutional investors may have less to fear from the huge burden of debt owed by property companies. He says falling capital values have reduced the real amount of debt-laden property overhanging the market, while a high proportion of the property is not the sort likely to appeal to institutional investors.

"For the banks, on the other hand, our estimates of the fall in asset values point to significant potential for further provisions," he says.

The banks are only now emerging from a 1992 reporting season that has seen balance sheets and profits ravaged by the fall in the value of property. Barclays, for example, which raised its lending to the British property market from little more than £2 billion in 1987 to £5.4 billion in 1991, had to declare a loss for 1992 along with provisions of £2.55 billion, much of them bad debts in the property sector.

The banks claim the latest provisions have brought their books in line with prevailing property values. Therefore, any further provisions would be a serious blow.

St Quintin believes Bank of England statistics underestimate the banks' total exposure because they count outstanding property company debt at £38 billion but exclude lend-

## PepsiCo gets a taste of Polish revolt

By COLIN NARBROUGH

FEW western companies have entered the emerging markets of the former Soviet bloc without some trepidation, but PepsiCo, the American food group of Pepsi fame, never imagined that it would have to face a shareholders' revolt at a privatised Polish company so soon.

Angry Polish investors in Wedel, a well known brand name in Poland, are threatening action to secure compensation from the PepsiCo-controlled management, which overlooked a government-approved three-year tax holiday.

Worse still, perhaps, is that the crucial tax break was not even mentioned in the prospectus.

For many western investors, the case highlights the

work-ethic gulf between the west and former communist economies. The document conveying the ministry's approval of 100 per cent tax freedom was left lying unattended on a desk at the Wedel office.

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## Property debt worse than expected for banks

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE pain may not yet be over for the big banks, even after the huge writedowns already made on their property loans. In the property market as a whole, St Quintin, the chartered surveyor, claims, £38 billion of debt is being propped up by assets valued at £50.5 billion that are actually worth only £31 billion.

Research from St Quintin suggests that the banks' exposure to the property sector is much greater than official statistics from the Bank of England suggest.

Even the £38 billion that is owed to banks directly by the property companies accounts for more than 8 per cent of total bank lending in Britain, and billions more are lent on the back of property assets that are owned by other sectors of British industry.

Peter Damesick, St Quintin's director of research, believes institutional investors may have less to fear from the huge burden of debt owed by property companies. He says falling capital values have reduced the real amount of debt-laden property overhanging the market, while a high proportion of the property is not the sort likely to appeal to institutional investors.

"For the banks, on the other hand, our estimates of the fall in asset values point to significant potential for further provisions," he says.

The banks are only now emerging from a 1992 reporting season that has seen balance sheets and profits ravaged by the fall in the value of property. Barclays, for example, which raised its lending to the British property market from little more than £2 billion in 1987 to £5.4 billion in 1991, had to declare a loss for 1992 along with provisions of £2.55 billion, much of them bad debts in the property sector.

The banks claim the latest provisions have brought their books in line with prevailing property values. Therefore, any further provisions would be a serious blow.

St Quintin believes Bank of England statistics underestimate the banks' total exposure because they count outstanding property company debt at £38 billion but exclude lend-

## Identity snag at Roxburghe

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE administrators of the failed Roxburghe Bank have hit a serious stumbling block in their bid to free up cash for depositors, who have been denied access to their funds since the bank closed before the Easter weekend.

Tony Lomas, one of the joint administrators, said last night that a substantial number of depositors, mainly based overseas — India and Kenya, in particular — have proven difficult to identify. "Some of them have accounts on a non-correspondence basis, which means they act through agents or nominee companies."

The administrators are required to go to the courts in three weeks to give details of progress in their search for depositors to gain access to at least some of their money. Any problems in identifying them will make this more difficult.

There are possibly dozens of depositors who operate on a non-correspondence basis, a process that can have certain tax advantages. The administrators suspect there may be links between a number of these. Some are quite substantial depositors in Roxburghe, whose assets are valued at approaching £40 million.

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### CONCISE CROSSWORD No 3070

**ACROSS**  
1 Stroller (6)  
5 Approaching (6)  
8 Collar fastener (4)  
9 Nourished (8)  
10 Disturbing surprises (6)  
12 Long walrus tooth (4)  
15 Internal TV (6,7)  
16 Non-magnetic compass (4)  
17 Oscillate (6)  
19 Rectangular church (8)  
21 Not at home (4)  
22 Brief look (6)  
23 Prolific (6)

**DOWN**  
2 Golf hole scoring (5,4)  
3 Boy (3)  
4 Close view seat (8)  
5 Stiff paper (4)  
6 Lip hair (9)  
7 Pheasant flock (3)  
11 Guardian (9)  
13 Tell long story (4,1,4)  
14 Court order official (8)  
18 Penalty payment (4)  
20 Leather pierce (3)  
21 Mandela's party (1,1,1)

### SOLUTION TO No 3069

**ACROSS:** 1 Total darkness 8 Unas 9 A priori 10 Sor 11 Harpo 12 Oneself 14 No less 16 Pass up 20 Hangman 23 Raise 24 TUC 25 Riveter 26 Rowel 27 Work one's way up

**DOWN:** 1 Touch on the raw 2 Tendril 3 Lassoes 4 Amato 5 Kyrie 6 Erode 7 Stiff upper lip 13 SOS 15 Egg 17 Aircrew 18 Slipway 19 Entire 21 Never 22 Motto

**CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS:** The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 £5.25 each, Book 3 & NEW Book 4 £4.25 each. Also The Times Jumbo Crosswords Book 1 (cryptic) £4.99, Book 2 (cryptic) £5.99, The Times Crosswords — Books 14, 15 & NEW Book 16 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&h (UK). Cheques to Akas Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery to 8 days. For details of all Times Crossword books and software, call Akas Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDS Doncaster on 0302 890 000.

### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from Veder — Barikagen, Hallsberg 1992. Here, black can play 1...f1/c2 2 Nxf1 Qxf1 winning a piece, but white would then launch a damaging counterattack with 3 Qa7+. Black found a stronger continuation. Can you do as well?

Solution on page 33

### WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

**LABARIA**  
a. Lip ornaments  
b. Poisonous snakes  
c. Roman razors  
**MOOSH**  
a. To kiss or neck  
b. An instruction to hushes  
c. A handkerchief

**VEPSIAN**  
a. Evening  
b. A Finnish people  
c. Apologetic  
**FETTA**  
a. A Sardinian feast  
b. Goat's or sheep's cheese  
c. The Phoenician digraph FT

Solution on page 33